

Young Magician

MAGIC TRICKS



Oliver Ho

Illustrated by
Dave Garbot



**This magic book
belongs to:**

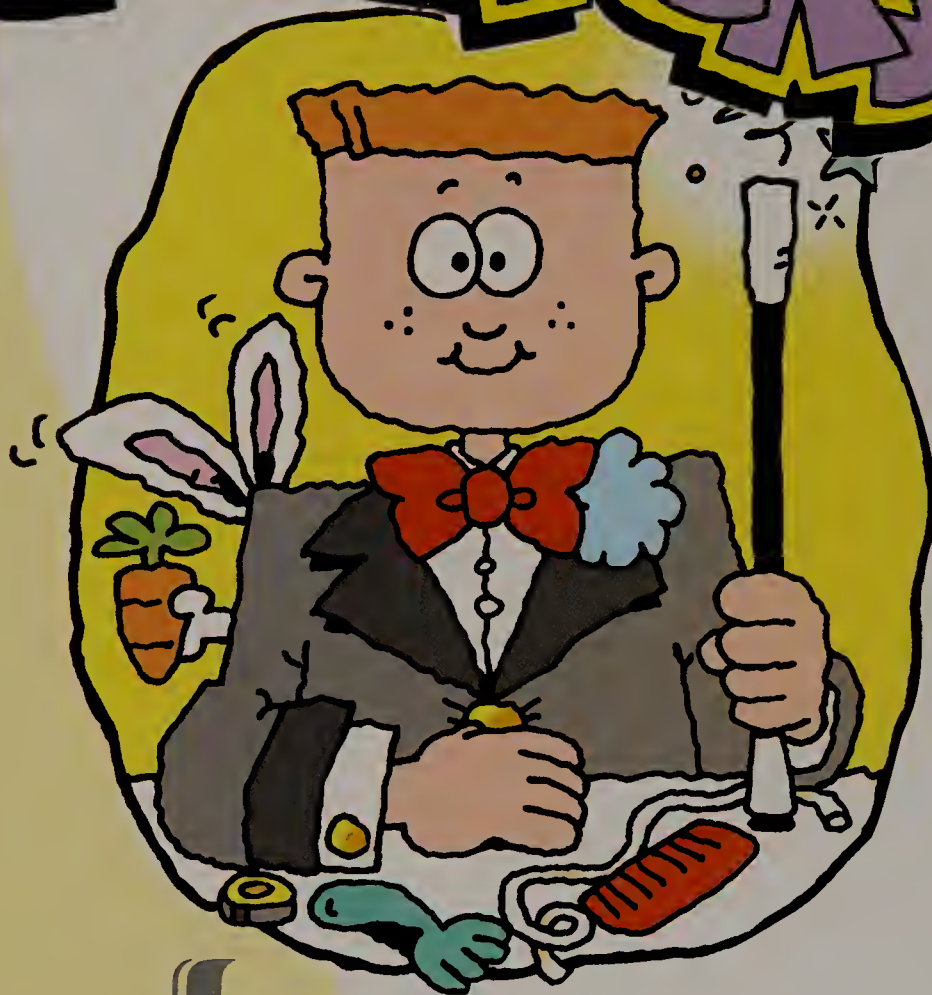
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The Magician

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Dedication

For my brother and my parents

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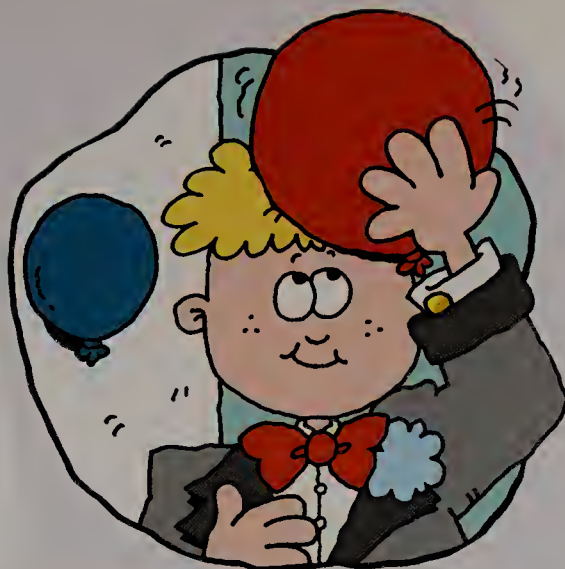
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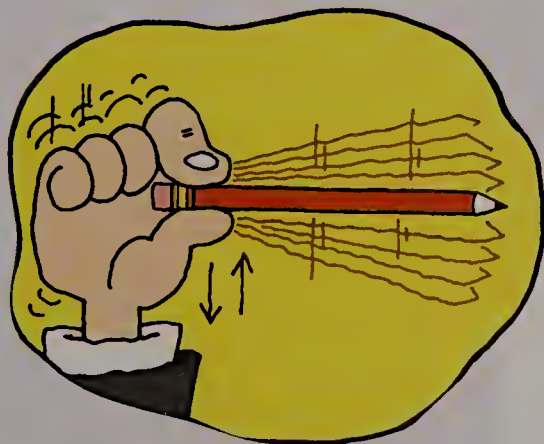
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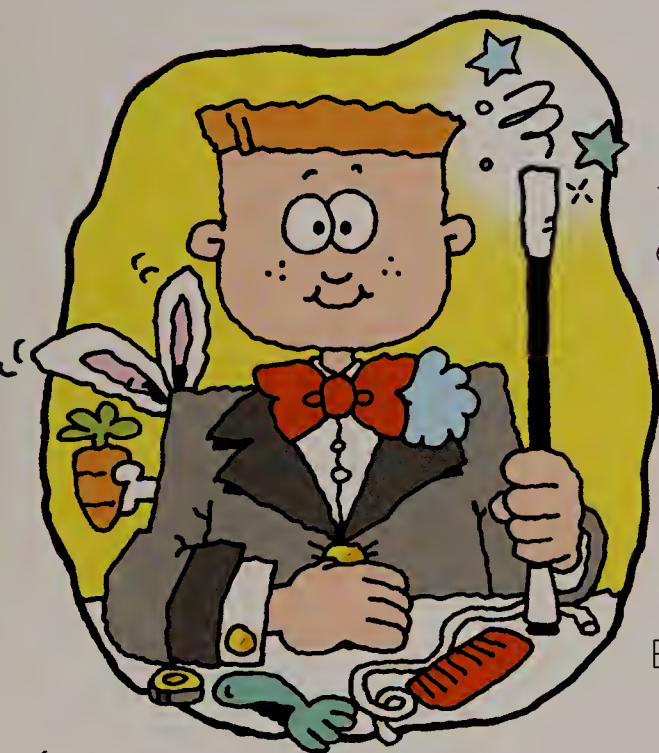
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The Magic Starts Here

Welcome to the world of magic tricks! This book will show you many amazing tricks that you can easily do. But you'll need to make sure you have all your magic supplies before you start. Take this book and look through your house for the things that we have listed here. Ask an adult to help you if you can't find some of them.

- ◆ Some string
- ◆ A pair of safety scissors
- ◆ Clear tape
- ◆ Drinking glasses
- ◆ Ice cubes
- ◆ A salt shaker
- ◆ Salt and pepper
- ◆ Some small coins
- ◆ A napkin
- ◆ A comb
- ◆ A pencil and pen
- ◆ A ruler
- ◆ A small button
- ◆ A pop bottle
- ◆ A rubber band
- ◆ Paper money
- ◆ Black and red checker pieces
- ◆ Some balloons
- ◆ A pin



Like all good magicians, make sure you do each of these tricks many times before you show them to an audience. If a trick is too hard, ask an adult to help you. Then try out the tricks in front of a mirror or with a close friend who won't tell your magic secrets to anyone.

Once you can do the tricks smoothly, try to think of different ways to show them to people. You can make up a story to go along with the trick, or you can say that you have magical powers while you are doing the trick. But whatever way you choose, remember to have fun!

The Art of Knot Throwing

The Magic

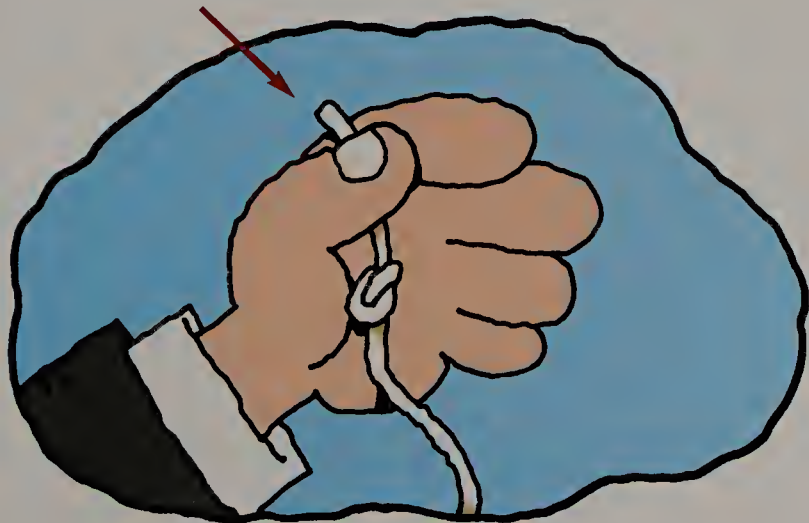
Holding a piece of string in one hand, you make a knot magically appear.

Magic Supplies

◆ A piece of string or rope

Before You Start

Tie a big knot at one end of the string. Hold that end in your hand so that no one sees the knot.



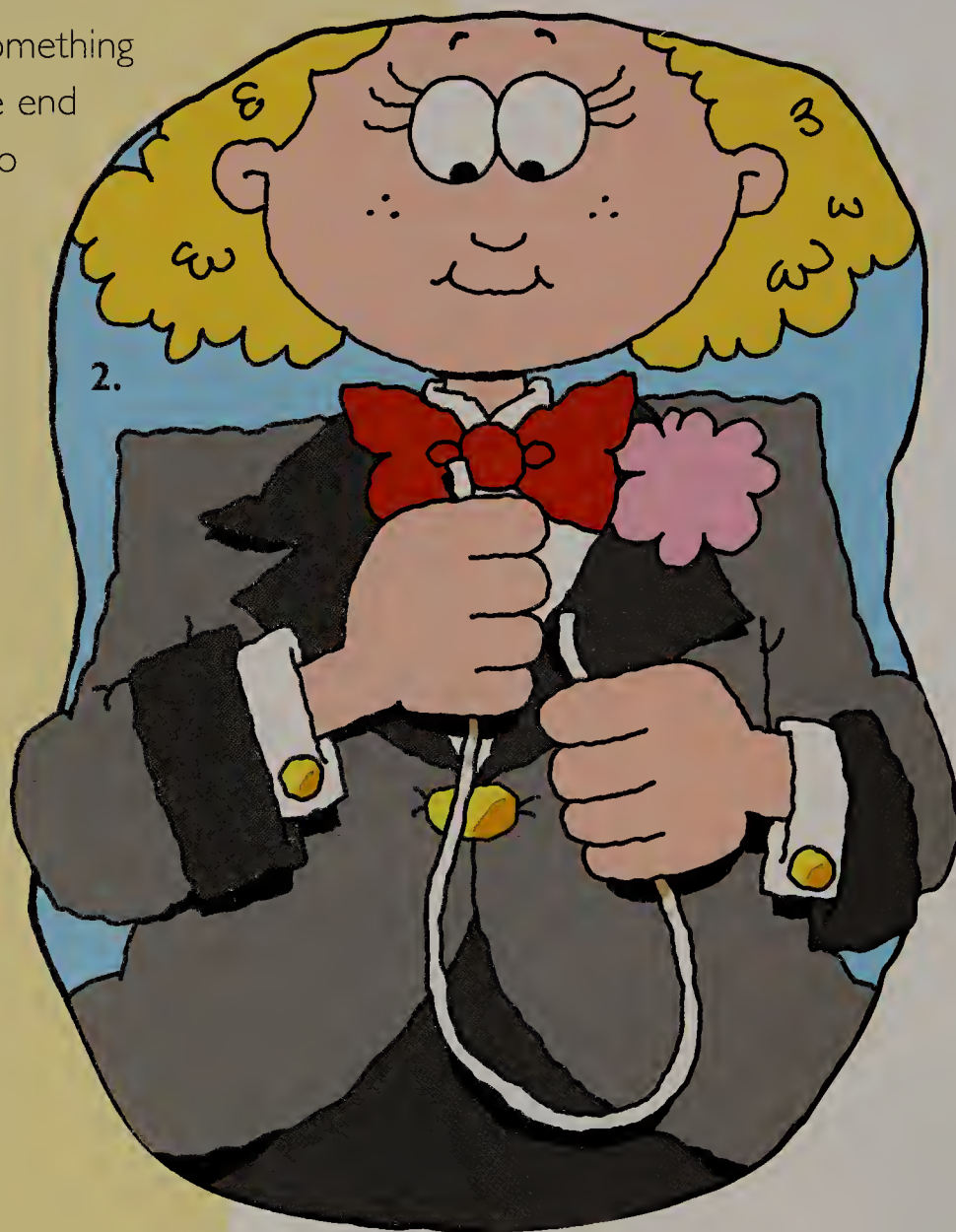
The Trick

1. Hold the end of the string with the knot in your left hand. Tell your audience you can make the string tie a knot all by itself.

2. With your right hand, bring the bottom end of the string up so both ends are in your left hand.

3. Pretend you're doing something very tricky. Then throw the end without the knot down. Do this two times.

4. On the third time, throw down the end of the string that has the knot in it. It will look as though you made the knot magically appear.



The Knot Challenge

The Magic

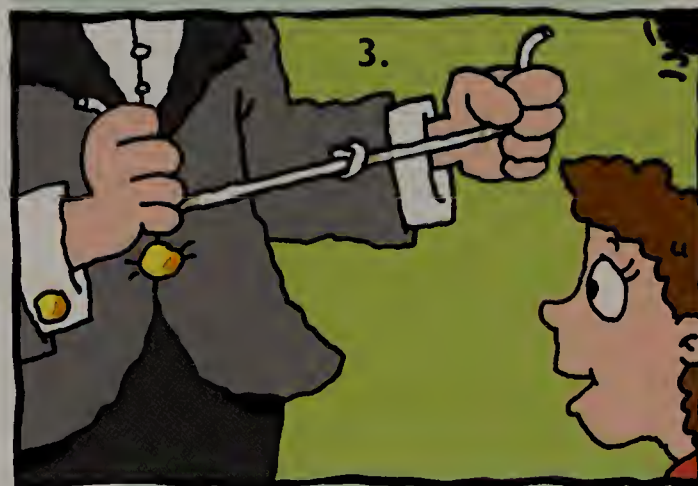
Ask your friend to tie a knot in a piece of string without letting go of the ends. She can't do it, but you can.

Magic Supplies

- ◆ A long piece of string
- ◆ A table

The Trick

1. Hold one end of the string in each hand. Give it to your friend and ask her to tie a knot in the string without letting go of either end. After she tries a few times, take the string back and lay it out on the table.
2. Fold your arms and then pick up the string. Pick up one end at a time.
3. Without letting go of the ends of the string, unfold your arms. There will be a knot in the string!



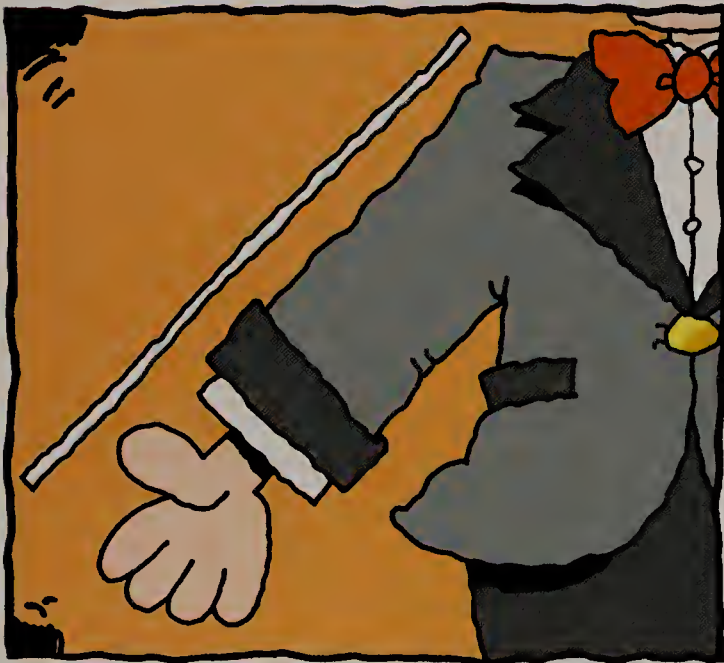
Cut & Restored String

The Magic

You cut a piece of string in two. Then, with a magic word, the string becomes one piece again.

Magic Supplies

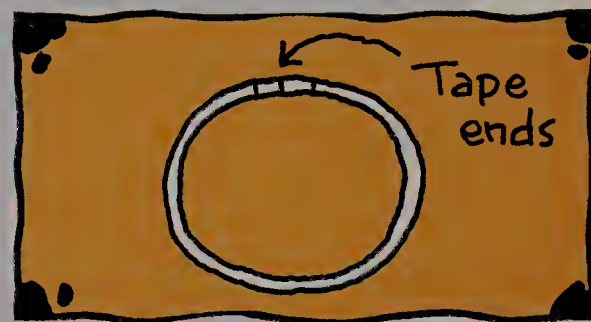
- ◆ Two pieces of string or yarn. One should be at least as long as your arm; the other piece should be about as long as your hand, like in the pictures below. Make sure that you can easily cut the string or yarn.
- ◆ A pair of safety scissors
- ◆ Clear tape



Before You Start

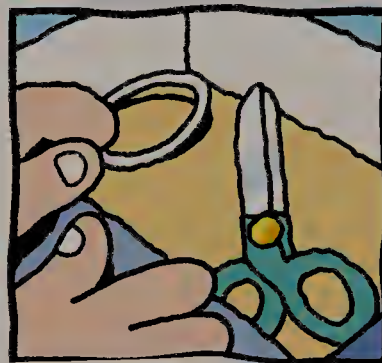
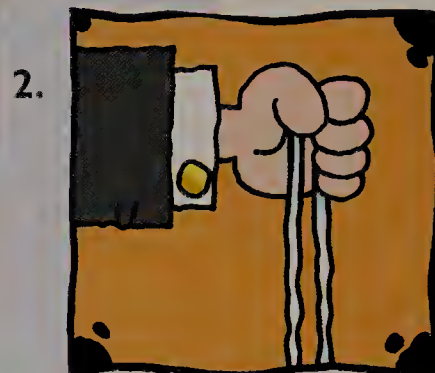
Take the small piece of string. Hold the ends together and use a small piece of tape to join them.

Keep this small loop of string with your scissors. Put them near you, but don't let your audience see them.



The Trick

1. Show the long piece of string to your audience. You can even let them hold it and check it.
2. Bring the two ends of the long string together and find the middle point. Fold it there and hold it in your left hand. Make a fist so that no one sees the fold. Your audience should only see the two ends of string hanging from the bottom of your left fist.
3. Pick up your scissors with your right hand and secretly pick up the small loop of string with your left hand. The easiest way to do this is to have the small loop of string and scissors in a box or a bag behind you. That way, you have to turn away from the audience and no one will see what you're doing.



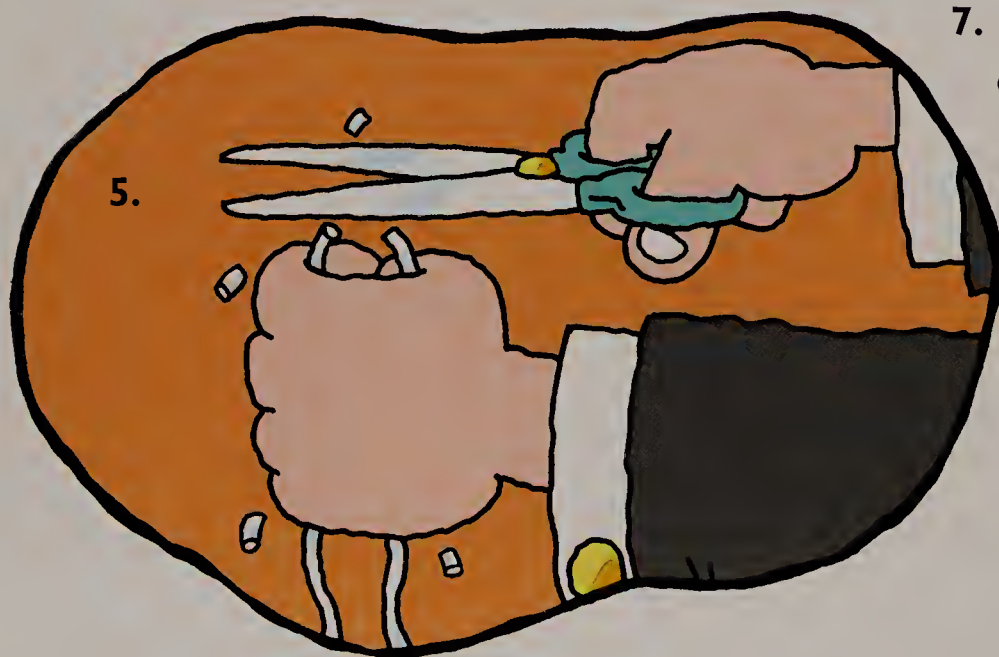
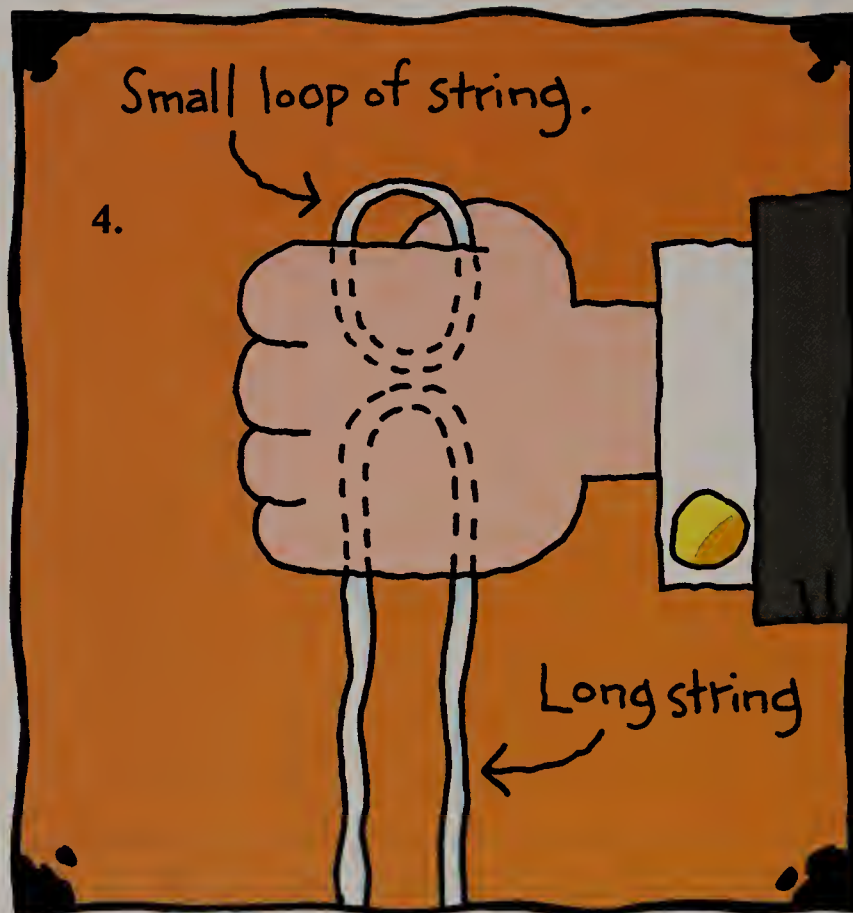
3.



4. Make sure the bend of the small loop sticks out from the top of your left fist. Your audience will believe this is the bend in the long piece of string. Turn around to face your audience.

5. Carefully cut the loop in half (or get someone from your audience to do it). Then, keep cutting the ends that are sticking out from the top of your fist. Let the pieces fall to the floor.

6. Make sure to let all the pieces of the small piece of string fall to the floor. Cut through the tape, too. When you're done, you're holding only the bend of the long piece of string in your left fist.



7. Put the scissors down. Bring all of the long string into your left hand. Say your magic word. Then open up your left hand and pull out the string to show that it is one piece again.

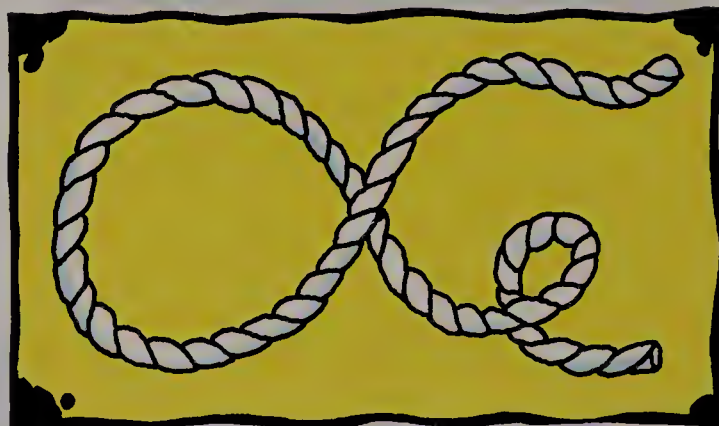
Melting String

The Magic

You put two pieces of string into your friend's hand. When you pull the strings out, they've melted into one piece.

Magic Supplies

- ◆ A piece of string about half as long as your arm. You need to find the kind of string that's made from several smaller strands twisted together, such as a yo-yo string.



Before You Start

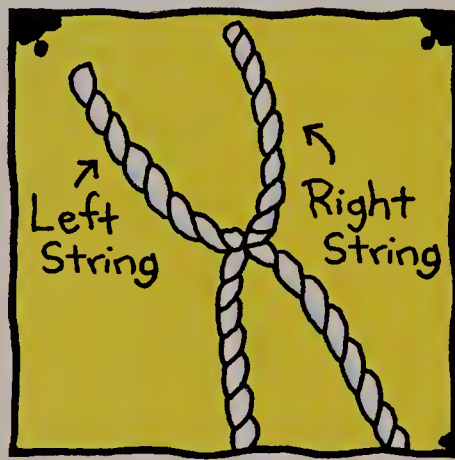
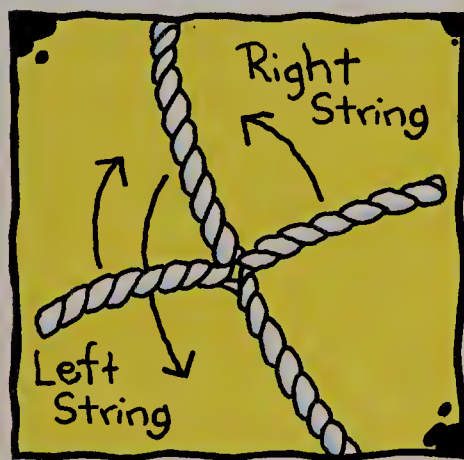
Take hold of the string at its middle and untwist it by rolling it carefully between your thumb and first finger.

Once you can see separate strands of the string, pull some to the left and some to the right. As you pull them apart, twist these strands together so that they look like the rest of the string. Keep pulling until it looks like a “+” sign.



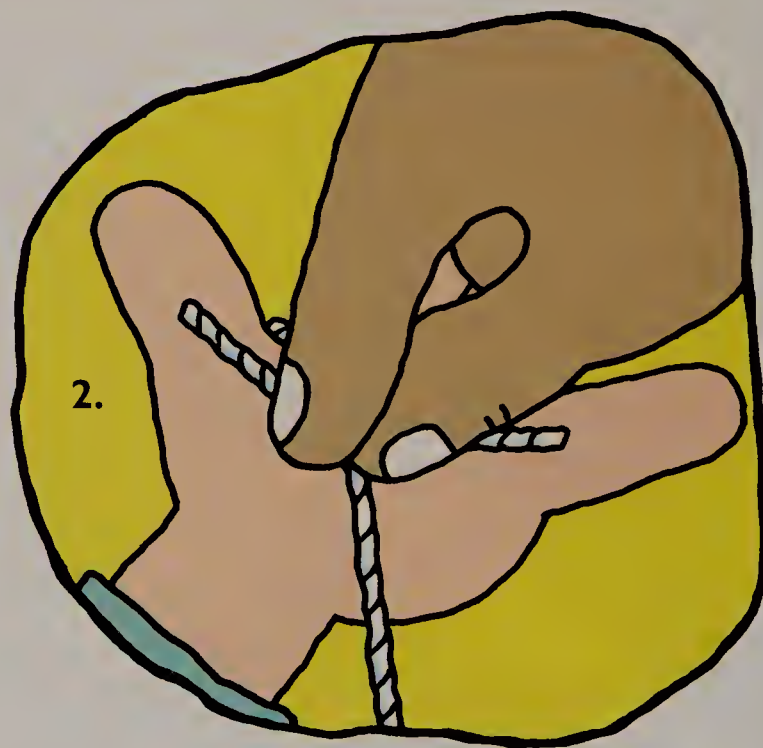
Hold the middle point of the string between the thumb and first finger in your left hand. Bring the ends of the strings that you had pulled apart above your thumb and first finger. Then bring the end of the middle string down.

When you hold it at the middle point, it looks as though you're holding two separate pieces of string. Now you're ready to start the trick.



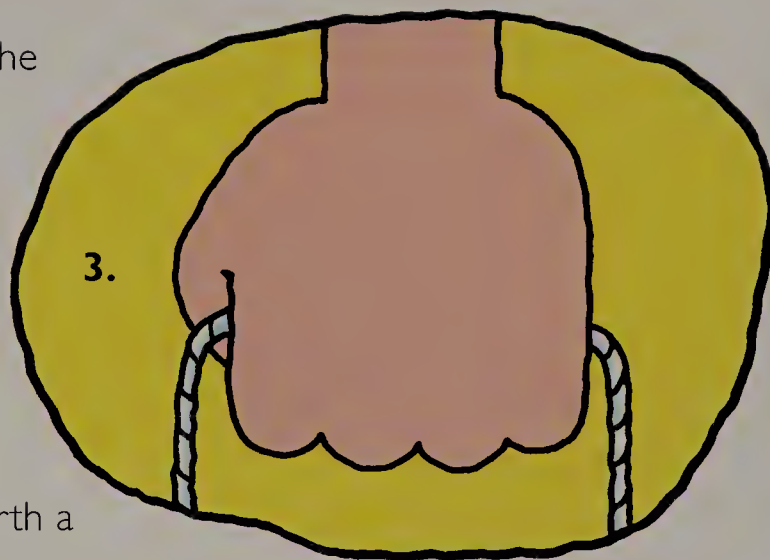
The Trick

1. Hold the string and tell your audience you're going to show them a trick with these "two pieces" of string. Ask someone from your audience to hold her palm out.
2. Put the short ends of the string into her palm. Then place one of the long ends over the thumb side of her hand. Place the other long end over the little-finger side of her hand.



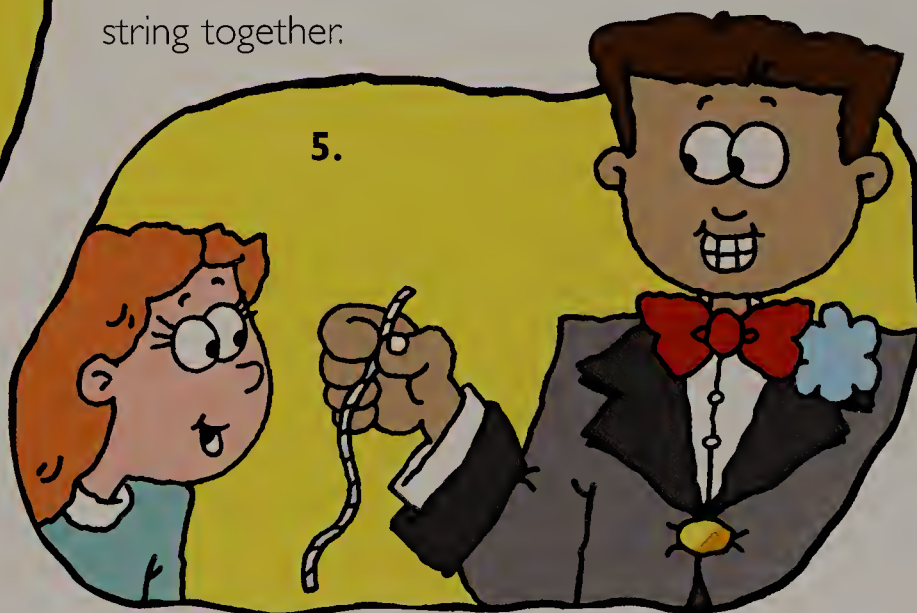
3. Tell her to close her fingers around the string. Take your thumb and first finger from her palm right before her fingers close. Make sure the right-side and left-side ends don't stick out from her fist. Ask her to turn her fist so that her palm faces down.

4. Take one end of the string in each hand. Slowly pull the string back and forth a tiny bit.



The short ends of the string will come apart and wind back into the rest of the string so that it will look like one piece of string again.

5. Keep pulling the string back and forth a few times. Then pull the string all the through her fist. It looks as if you just joined two pieces of string together.



Sticky Ice

The Magic

You show a glass of water with an ice cube floating in it. You give your friend a short piece of string and ask him to use the string to lift the ice cube out of the glass. He can't do it, but you can.

Magic Supplies

- ◆ A glass of water
- ◆ An ice cube
- ◆ A piece of string a few inches long
- ◆ Some salt

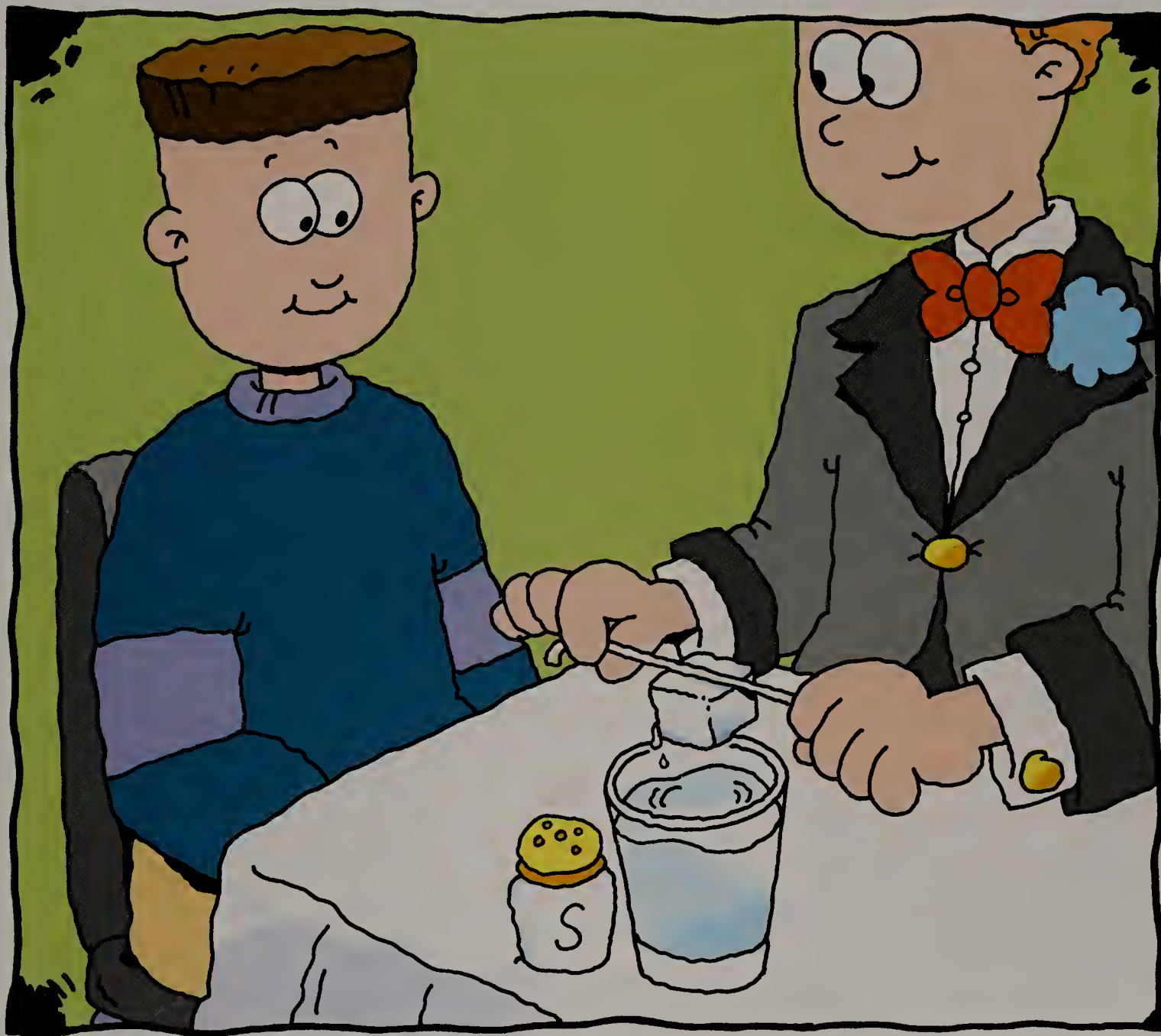
The Trick

1. Give someone from your audience a glass of water with an ice cube floating in it. Then give him a piece of string and say that he can't use it to lift the ice cube out of the glass. As much as he tries, he won't be able to do it.

2. Now it's your turn. Lay the string across the top of the glass so that the middle of the string rests on top of the ice cube.



3. Sprinkle some salt on the ice cube. Wait for a while, then lift the string. The ice cube will be frozen to it.



The Disappearing Salt Shaker

The Magic

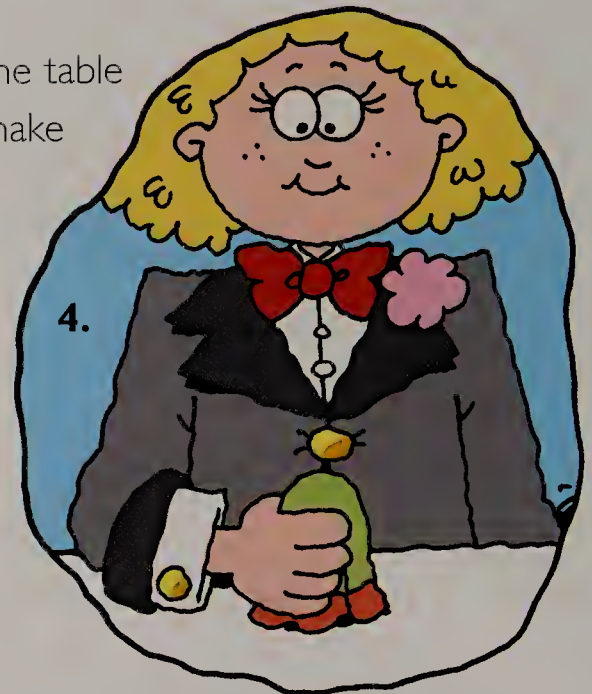
You place a coin on the table and tell your audience that you'll make the coin disappear. You cover the coin with a salt shaker and then cover that with a napkin. To everyone's surprise, you press down on the napkin. When you lift the napkin, the coin is still there, but the salt shaker has disappeared.

Magic Supplies

- ◆ A small coin
- ◆ A salt shaker
- ◆ A napkin that's big enough to cover the salt shaker
- ◆ A table covered with a tablecloth
- ◆ A chair

The Trick

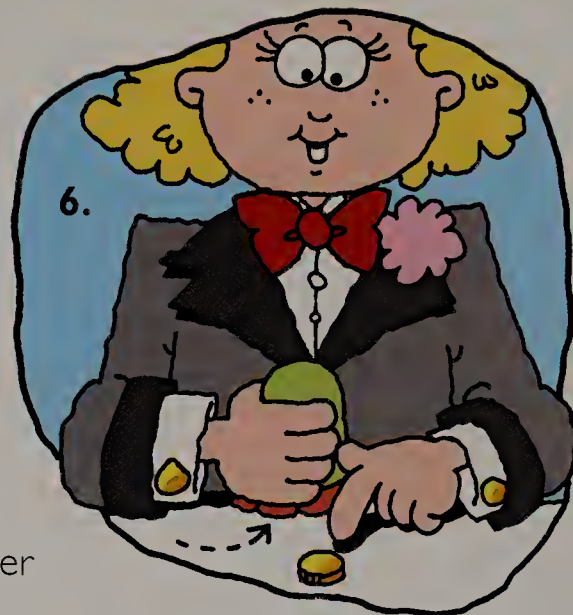
1. Sit on the chair behind the table. Place the coin on the table in front of you. Tell your audience that you're going to make the coin disappear.
2. Spread the napkin on top of it and then pretend to change your mind. Tell them you're going to make the trick harder.
3. Lift the napkin and place the salt shaker on top of the coin.
4. Place the napkin over the shaker. Wrap your right hand around the napkin and shaker so that the napkin will have the shape of the shaker.



5. Lift the shaker up and look at the coin. Ask your audience what kind of coin it is. Bring your right hand close to the edge of the table. Point at the coin with your left hand and move the coin around on the tabletop.

6. Secretly relax your right fingers a little bit and let the salt shaker fall into your lap. Keep holding the napkin as if the salt shaker were under it. The napkin will keep its shape.

7. Pretending that the shaker is still under the napkin, cover the coin with the napkin.

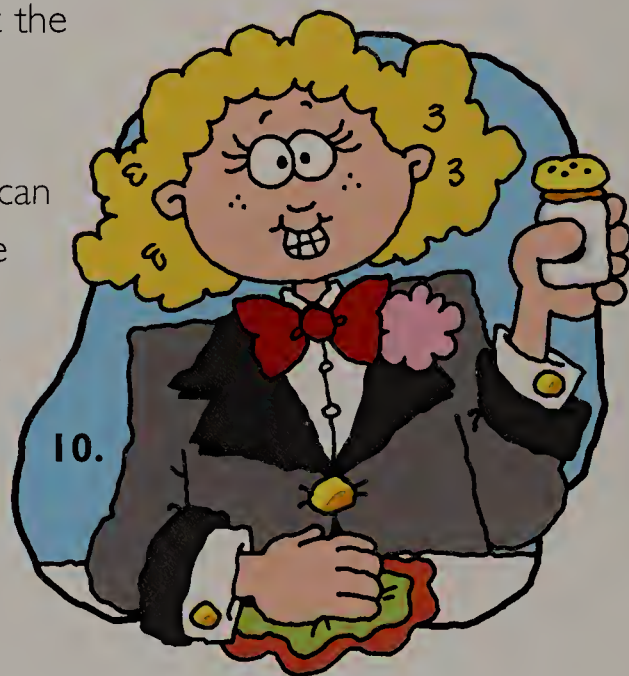
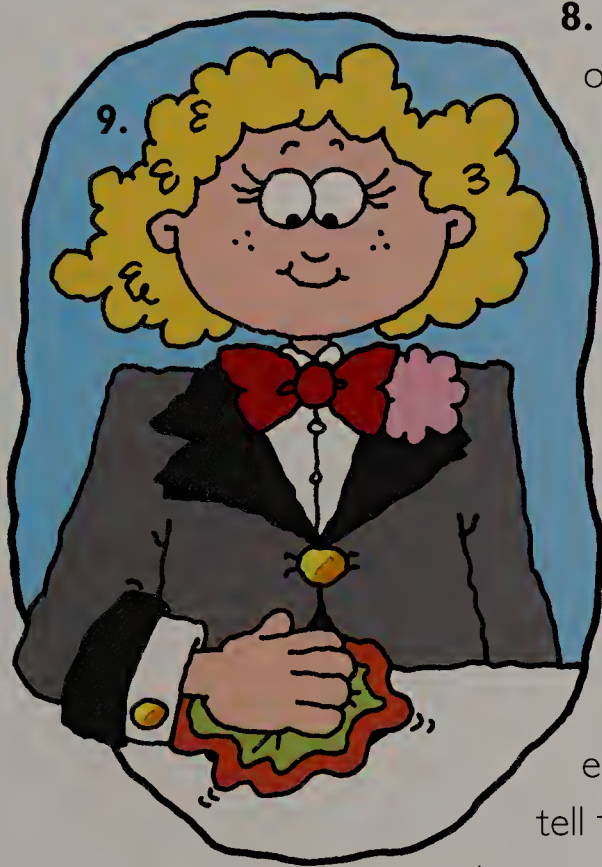


8. Ask the audience whether the coin was heads-up or tails-up. This will make them think about the coin and not about the salt shaker.

9. Surprise everyone by pressing the top of the napkin down onto the table. Open up the napkin and show that the shaker has vanished.

10. To make the salt shaker reappear, you can reach under the table and secretly pick up the shaker from your lap. Show your audience the shaker and tell them that it must have gone right through the table.

audience the shaker and tell them that it must have gone right through the table.



Combing Out the Pepper

The Magic

You mix a little bit of salt and pepper together into a small pile on the table. Then ask someone from your audience to separate the pepper from the salt without touching the pile with his fingers. He can't do it, but you can.

Magic Supplies

♦ Salt and pepper ♦ A comb

The Trick

1. Mix a small amount of salt and pepper on the table. Ask someone from your audience to separate the pepper from the salt without touching either.



2. After your friend gives up, it's your turn. Take a comb and run it through your hair a few times. This will give the comb a charge of electricity. Then drag the comb over the pile of salt and pepper.

3. The pepper grains will come to the electric charge. Because they're lighter than the grains of salt, they'll stick to the comb!



Wavy Pencil

The Magic

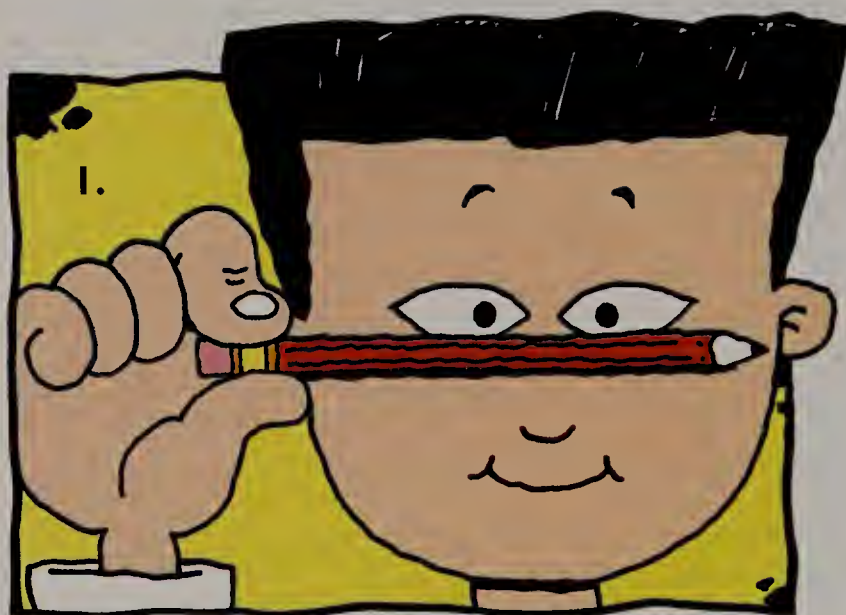
You're able to make any pencil appear to be made of rubber!

Magic Supply

♦ A pencil (or pen)

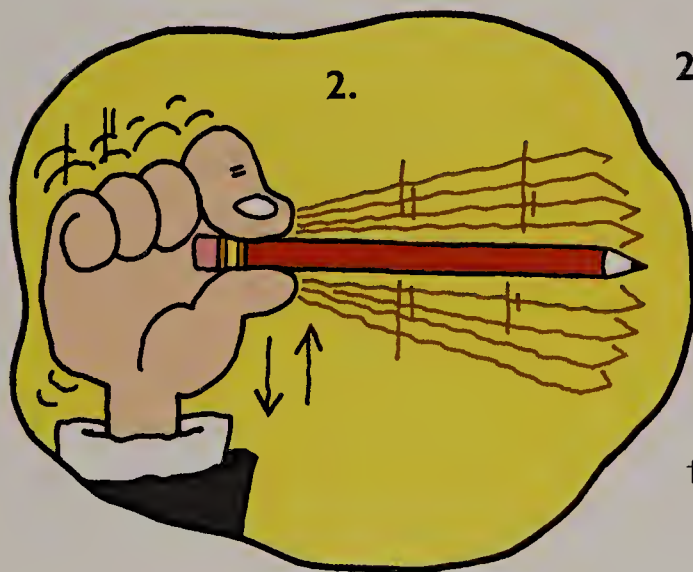
The Trick

1. Hold the end of the pencil between your thumb and first finger. Hold it sideways in front of your face.



2. Move your hand straight up and down in a short, smooth way. Make sure you hold the pencil loosely. Don't wiggle it with your thumb and first finger. Move your whole hand. It should wobble a little bit as you move your hand.

You will need to practice moving your hand a few times before you find the right way to make the pencil seem to bounce like rubber.



The Magnetic Pen 1

The Magic

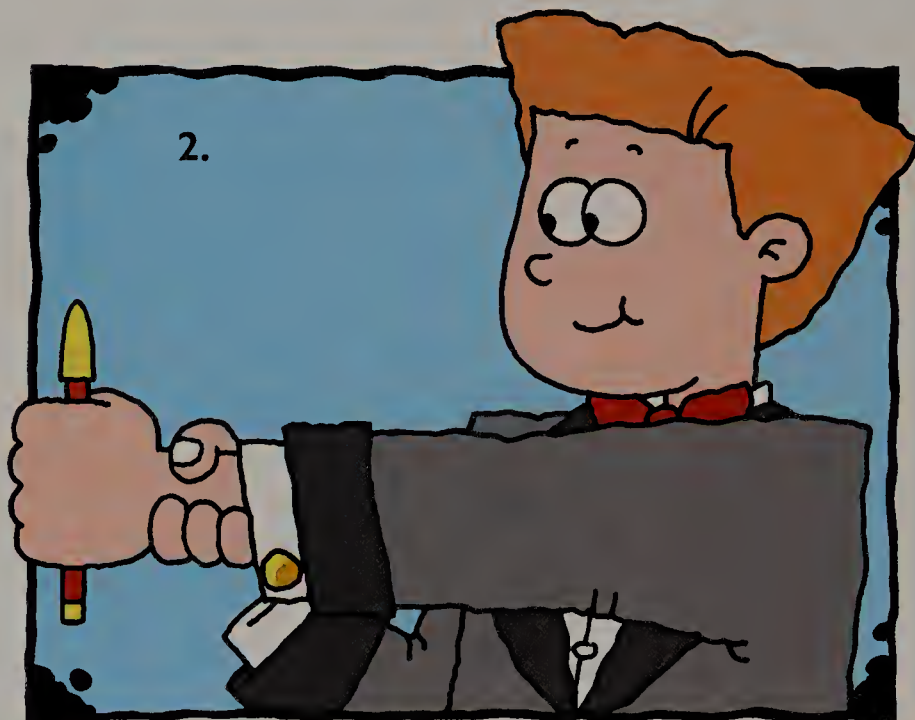
A pen magically sticks to your hand.

Magic Supply

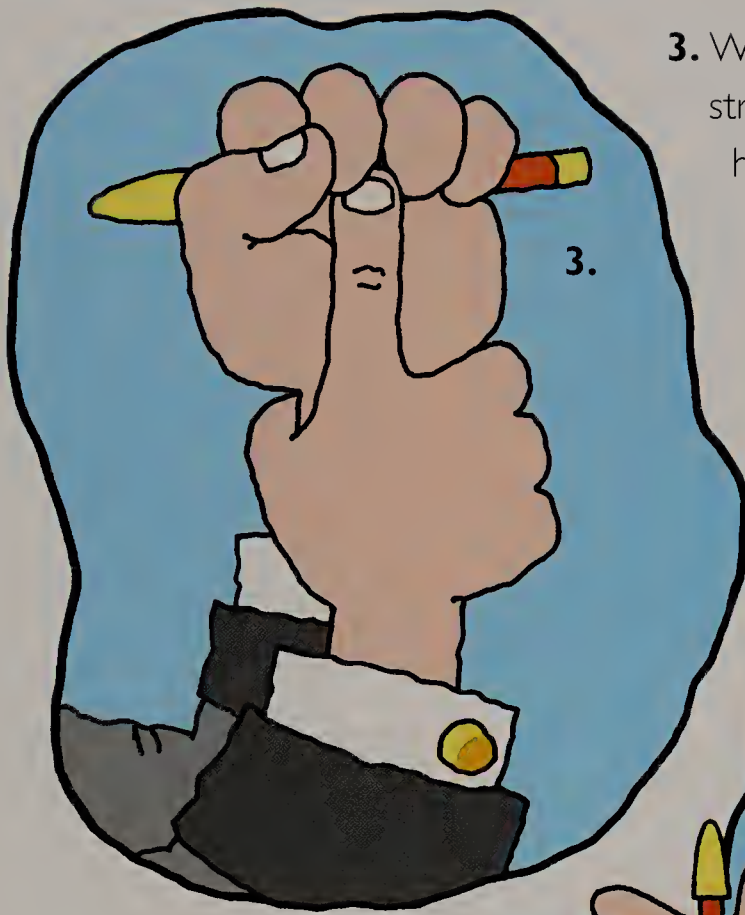
♦ A pen

The Trick

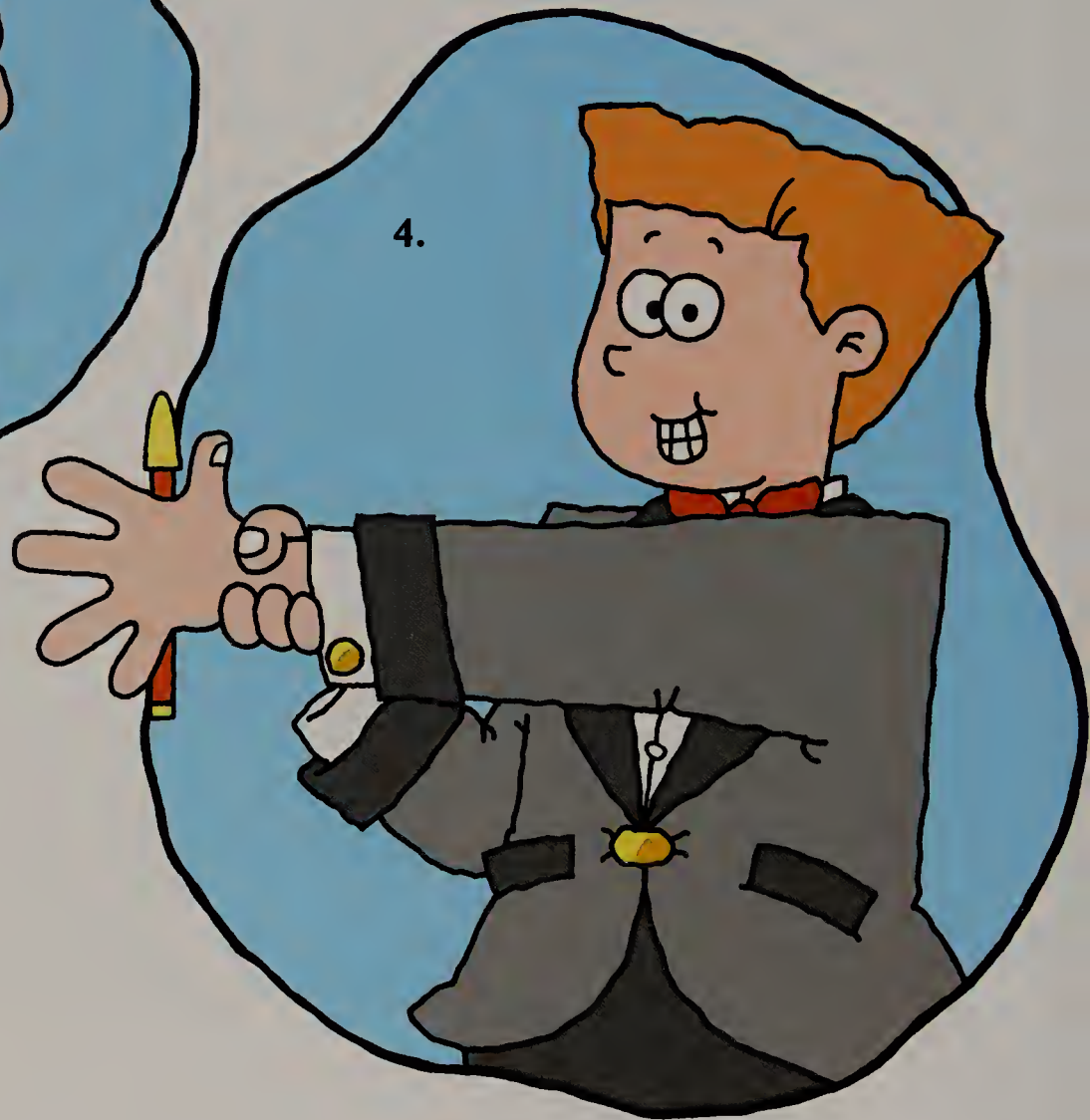
1. Hold the pen in your left hand and close your fingers into a fist. The pen should stick out from both sides of your fist. Turn your body so that your audience is looking at the back of your left hand.
2. Hold your left wrist with your right hand. Tell your audience that you're doing this to keep your hand still.



3. When you take hold of your left wrist, secretly straighten the first finger of your right hand, so it holds the pen under your left fist.



4. Straighten the fingers of your left hand. The pen will appear to be stuck to your palm.



The Magnetic Pen 2

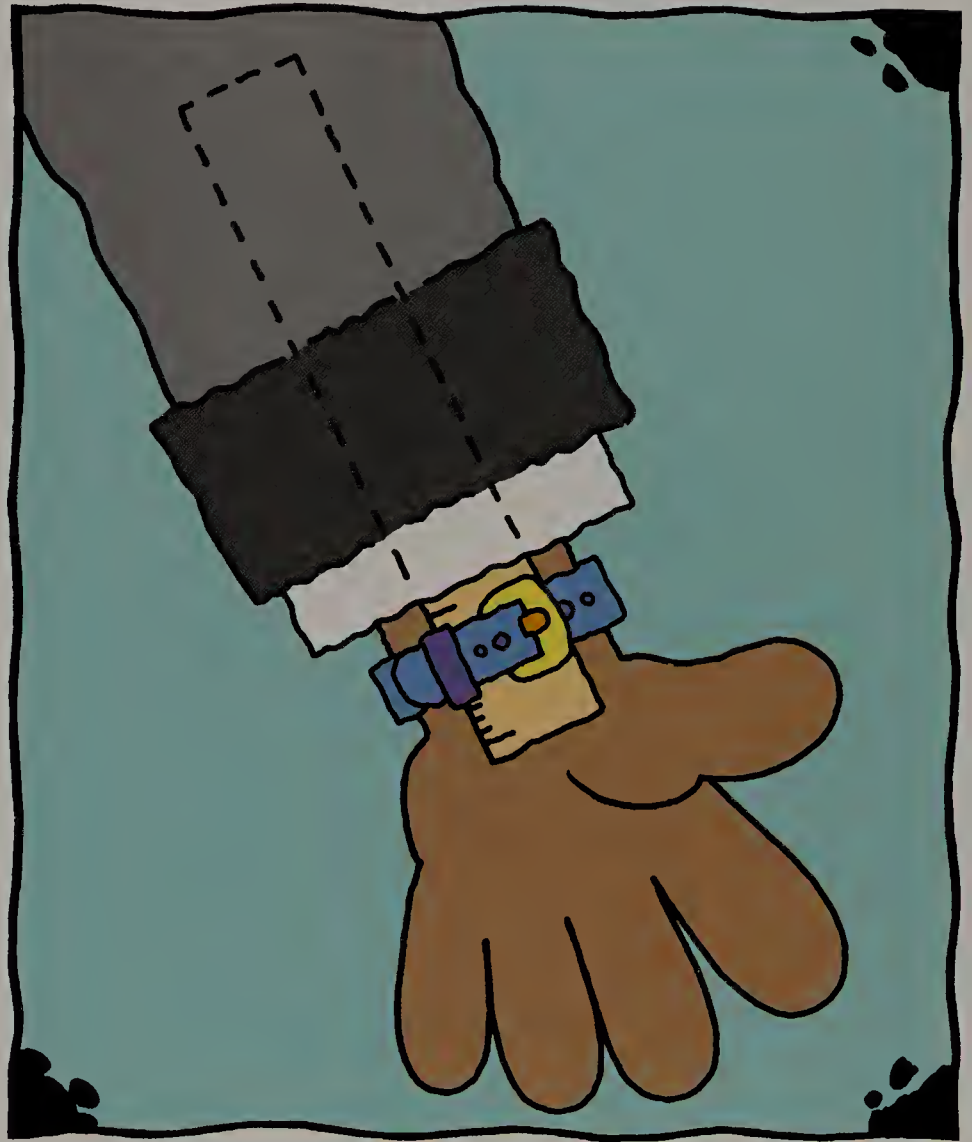
Here's another way you can do the Magnetic Pen trick. This will fool people who think they know how you did the trick.

Magic Supplies

- ◆ A ruler
- ◆ A wristwatch or a shirt (or sweater) with tight cuffs on the wrist

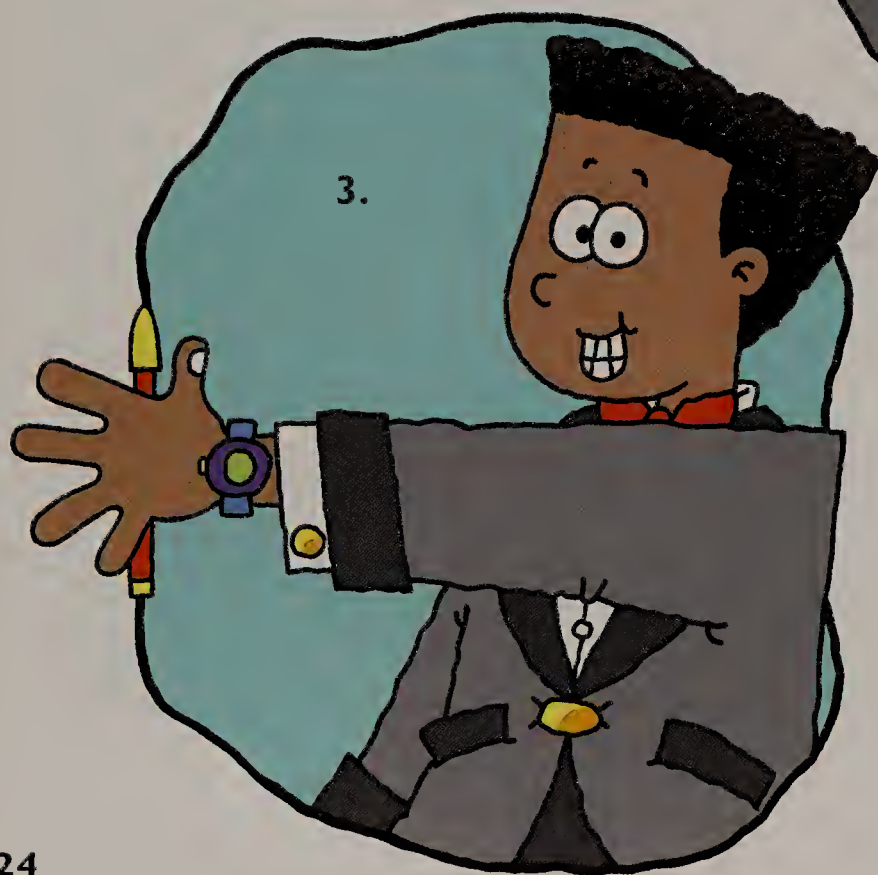
Before You Start

Hide the ruler in your left sleeve. The ruler should be along the inside of your wrist. The end of it should be very close to the bottom part of your palm. If you're wearing a watch, you can tuck the end of the ruler under your watchstrap.



The Trick

1. Do the Magnetic Pen #1 (see pages 21–22).
2. Close your left hand around the pen and tell your audience you'll do the trick again. While you're talking, secretly pull the ruler out from under your sleeve. Pull out enough of it to hold the pen in place.
3. Perform the trick as you did for Magnetic Pen #1. Then let go of your left wrist and show that your right hand is nowhere near the pen.



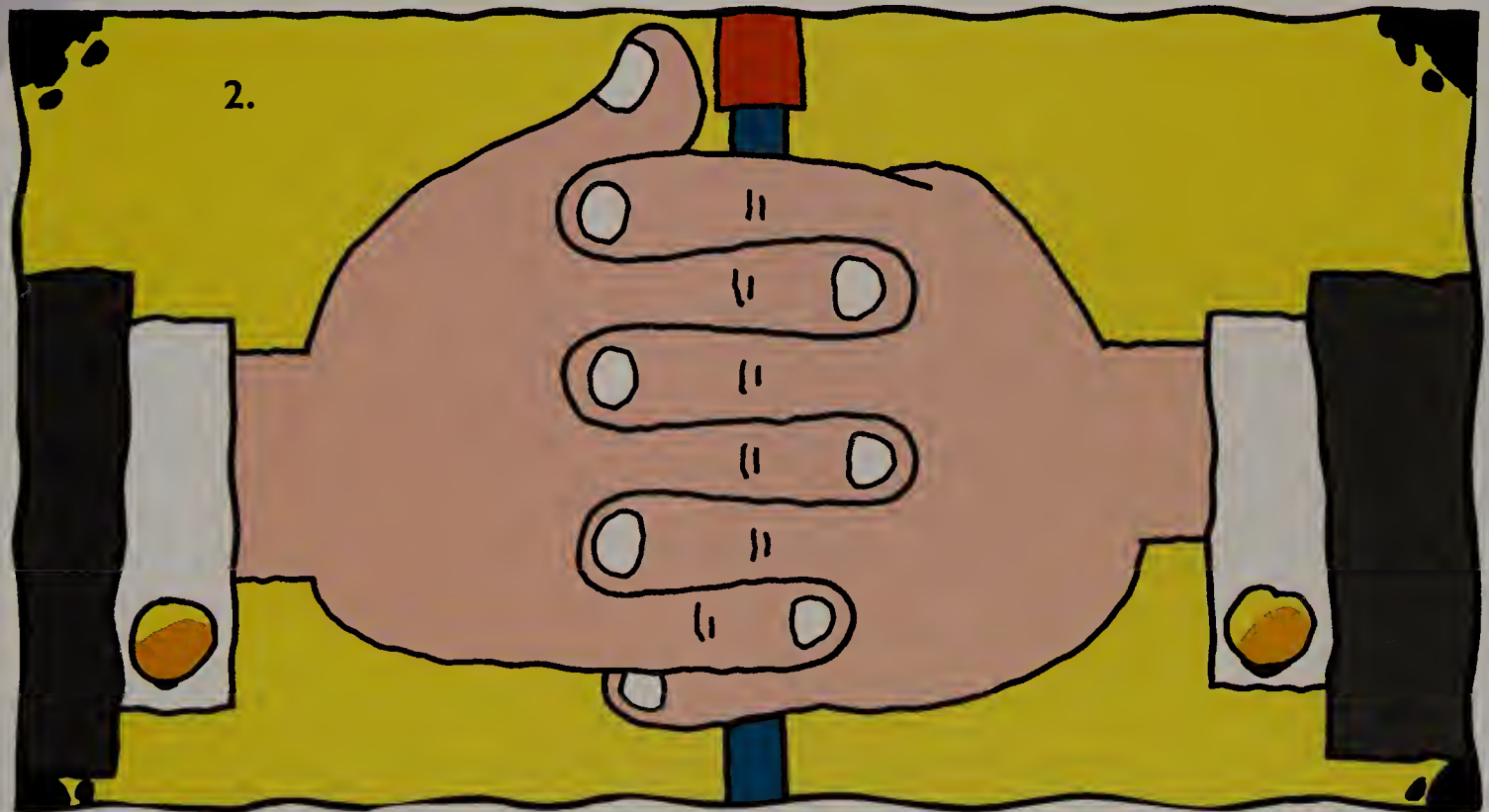
4. When you're done, take hold of your left wrist again and secretly tuck the ruler back up your sleeve.

The Magnetic Pen 3

And here's the last way to do the Magnetic Pen trick.

The Trick

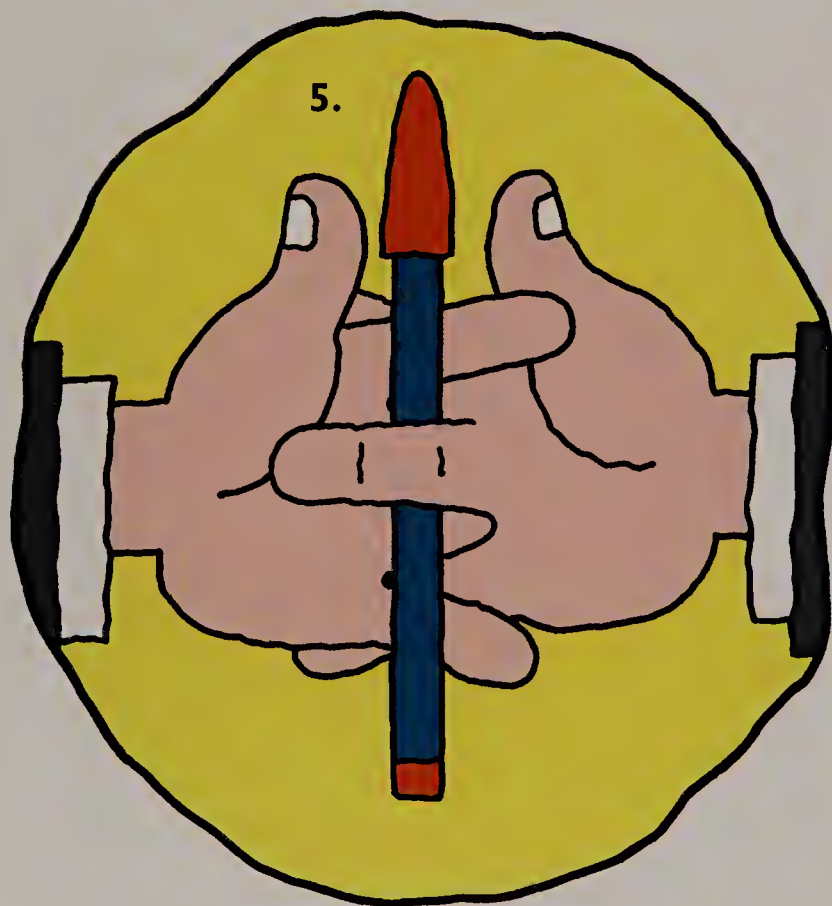
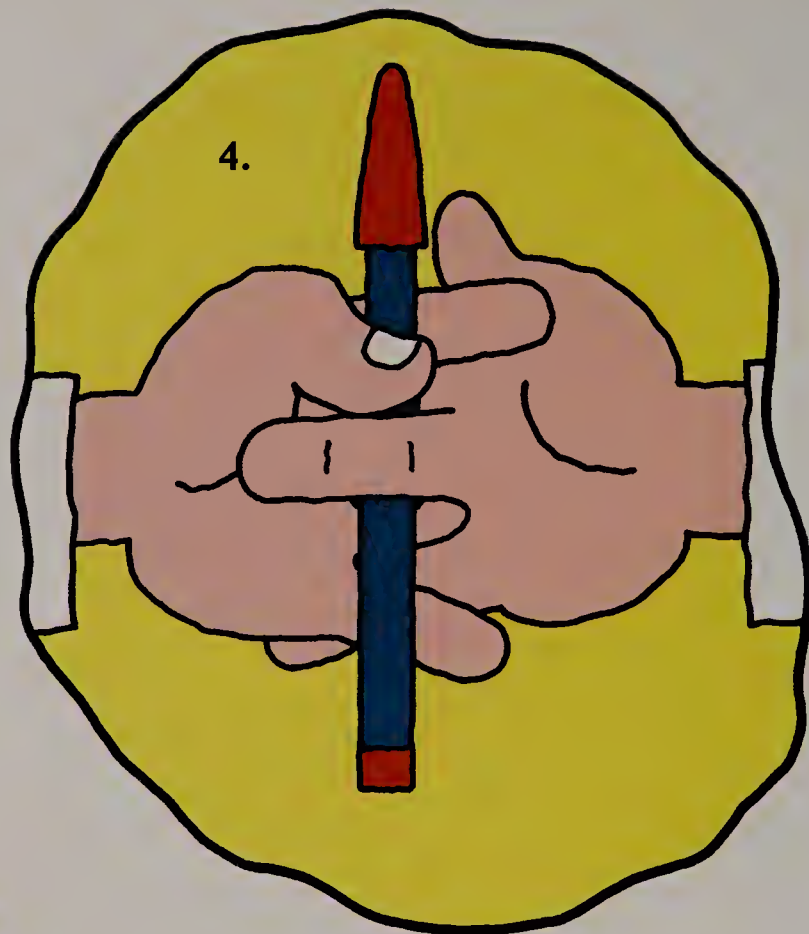
1. Place the pen on your left palm and hold it down with your left thumb.
2. Bring your hands together: Interlace your fingers, but secretly keep your right middle finger inside your palm.



3. Raise your hands so that your audience is looking at the backs of your hands.

4. Use your thumbs to push the pen between the back of your right middle finger and your left palm. Say a few magic words and then tell everyone that you have turned the pen into a magnet.

5. Let go with one thumb and then another. The pen will look as though it is stuck to your hands.



6. Open up your hands and let the pen fall. That way, no one will notice that your right middle finger was hidden.

The Disappearing Pen

The Magic

You hold a small coin and tell your audience that when you tap it with your pen, the coin will disappear. When you tap the coin, the pen disappears!

You show the audience where the pen went. When they look back at your hand, the coin has now disappeared.

Magic Supplies

- ◆ A small coin
- ◆ A pen
- ◆ A jacket with an open left side pocket or pants with large pockets

The Trick

1. Show the coin on the palm of your left hand. Your audience should be on your left side. Hold the pen in your right hand.
2. Tell your audience that you'll make the coin disappear by tapping it with the pen. Raise the pen up so that it's by your right ear. Then bring your arm down and tap the coin. Do this again.

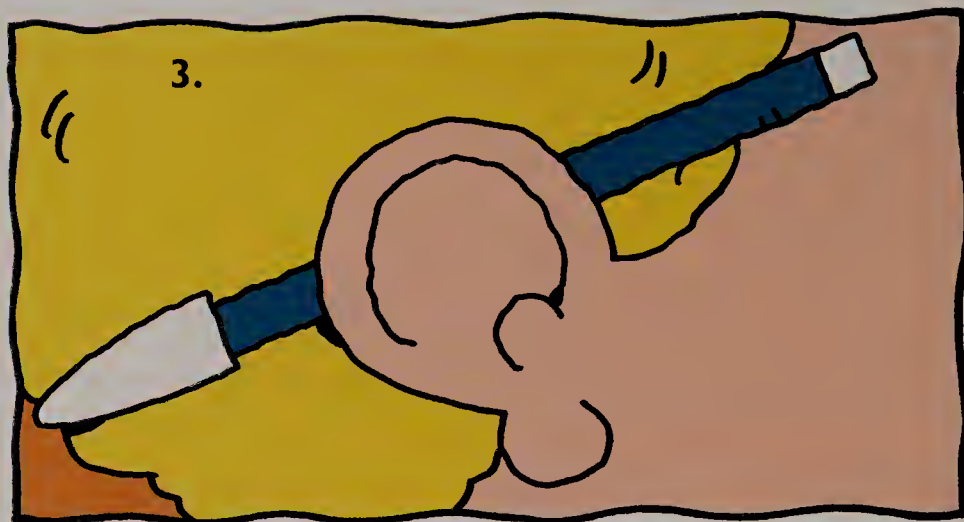


3. Raise your pen for the third time. But before you tap the coin, slide the pen behind your right ear. Then bring your hand down as if you're still holding the pen and you're ready to tap the coin.

4. Before you tap the coin, pretend that you're surprised to see that the pen has disappeared.

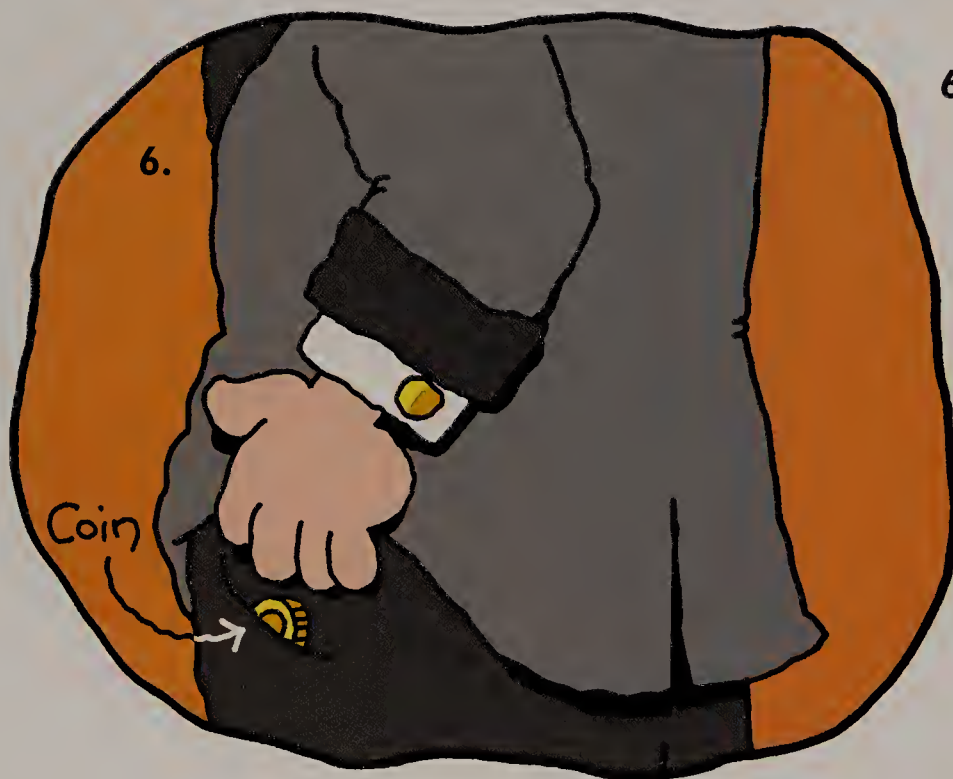
Show your audience that your right hand is empty.

5. Pretend to look for the pen. Turn the right side of your body to your audience so that they will see the pen behind your ear. When they tell you it's there, remove it with your right hand.



6. While you're doing this, secretly drop the coin into your left side pocket. Hold your left hand as if you're still holding the coin.

7. Turn back to your audience and pretend to tap the coin as you did before. Open your palm and show that the coin has disappeared.



The Rubber Spoon

The Magic

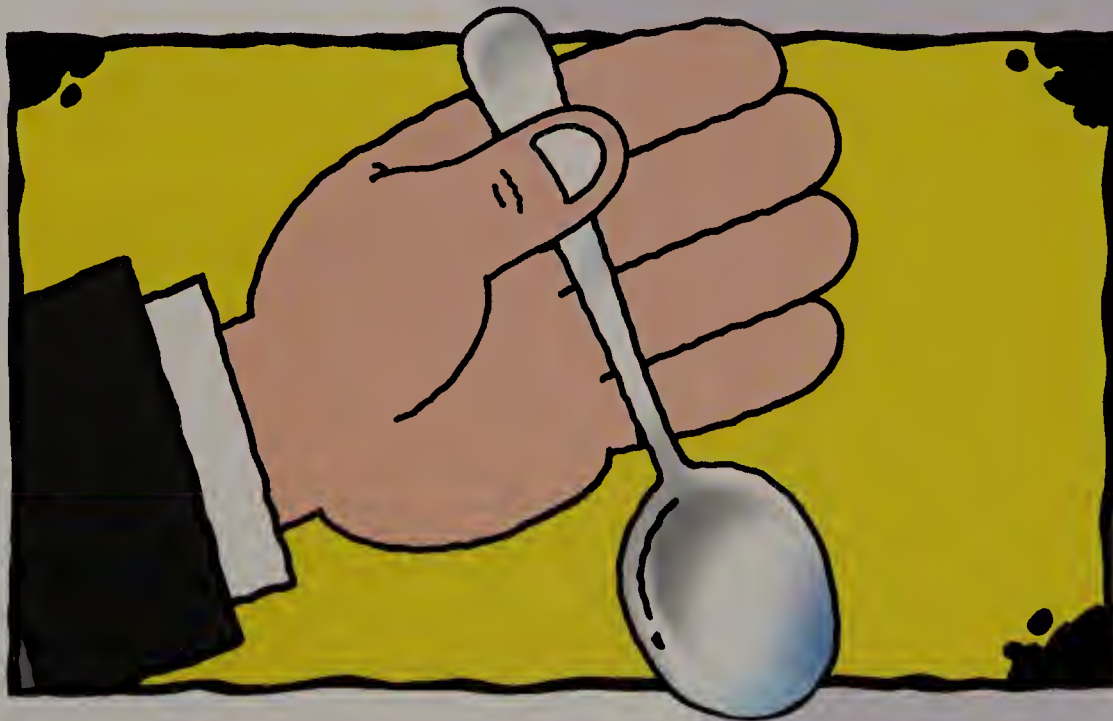
You seem to bend the handle of a spoon nearly in half and then quickly straighten it again.

Magic Supply

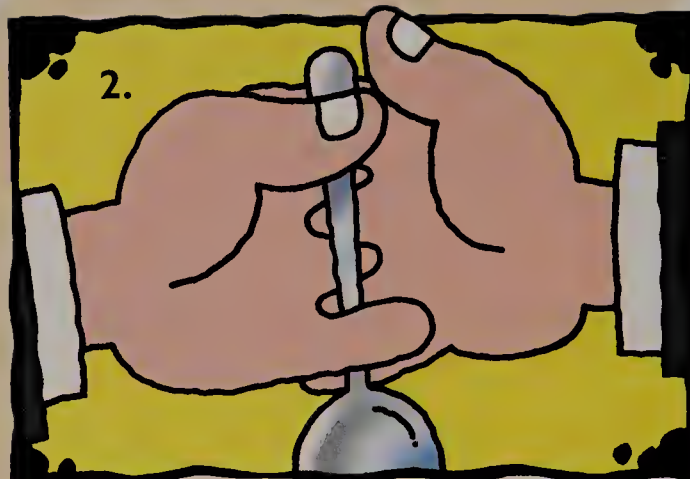
◆ A spoon ◆ A table

The Trick

1. Hold the spoon in your left hand like in the picture below:



2. Bring your hands together. Place your right fingers in front of your left fingers. Secretly move your left little finger so that you're holding the handle of the spoon between it and your third left finger. It should look as if you're holding the handle of the spoon with both hands.



3. Press the bowl of the spoon on the table and slowly tilt your hands forward as if you're bending the handle of the spoon forward.



4. Secretly let the handle of the spoon slide between your hands. It will look as though you're bending the spoon.

5. To magically straighten it, lift your hands. Take hold of the bowl of the spoon with your right hand. Your left hand should look as if you're really holding a bent spoon. With your right hand, slowly pull the spoon from your left hand. Your spoon is magically straight again!



Floating Button

The Magic

You drop a small shirt button into a glass filled with some soft drink. The button sinks to the bottom. At your command, the button floats to the top of the glass. When you tell it to sink, the button falls back to the bottom of the glass.

Magic Supplies

- ◆ A small and light button
- ◆ A glass full of clear soft-drink

Before You Start

You will need to find out how long it takes for your button to rise and sink in the soft drink. Count in your head how long it takes and remember these times when you do the trick.

The Trick

1. Drop the button into a glass full of clear soft drink. The button will sink to the bottom. Bubbles from the drink will stick to the button.



2. Count in your head how long it will take for enough bubbles to stick to the button and make it float to the top. Right before the button begins to float up, pretend to tell the button to rise.

3. After the button floats to the top of the soft drink, the bubbles on it will burst and the button will sink back to the bottom of the glass. Again, you will know how long this takes. Right before the button begins to sink down, pretend to tell the button to go down. The button will keep going up and down as long as there are bubbles in your drink.



A Drink of Water

The Magic

You hold a glass of water in your right hand and have your friend hold your right wrist. No matter how hard he holds your wrist in place, you can lift the glass to your lips and have a drink.

Magic Supply

♦ A glass of water

The Trick

1. Hold the glass of water in your right hand and ask someone from your audience to hold your right wrist. Tell him that no matter how hard he holds your right arm in place, you'll be able to lift the glass to your lips and have a drink. Make sure that he doesn't hold your wrist so hard that he's hurting you or that he makes you spill the water. Tell him just to hold your arm in place.



2. Ask him when he's ready. When he says, "OK," use your left hand to take the glass and drink from it!



Ghost in the Bottle

The Magic

You place a small coin over the opening of a bottle and tell your audience that you've just trapped a ghost inside the bottle. After a few moments, the coin starts to jump as if a spirit is trying to push it up from inside the bottle.

Magic Supplies

- ◆ An empty glass soft-drink bottle
- ◆ A small, light coin that just fits over the bottle's opening

Before You Start

Place the empty bottle in your freezer overnight. Take it out just before you're ready to do this trick.



The Trick

1. Once the bottle is out of the freezer, some water will begin to appear on the sides of the bottle. Secretly wipe off some water onto your finger.

2. Secretly wipe the drops of water around the edge of the coin. Then put the coin over the top of the bottle. The water should seal the opening between the coin and the top of the bottle.

3. Tell your audience about the ghost that you've just trapped. Hold the bottle tightly with both hands. This will warm up the air inside the bottle. The air will try to escape around the edge of the coin.

4. After 15 to 20 seconds, the coin will start to move a little up and down. Let it do this for a while and then take your hands off the bottle. The coin should go on jumping for a few more seconds.



The Hip-hopping Rubber Band

The Magic

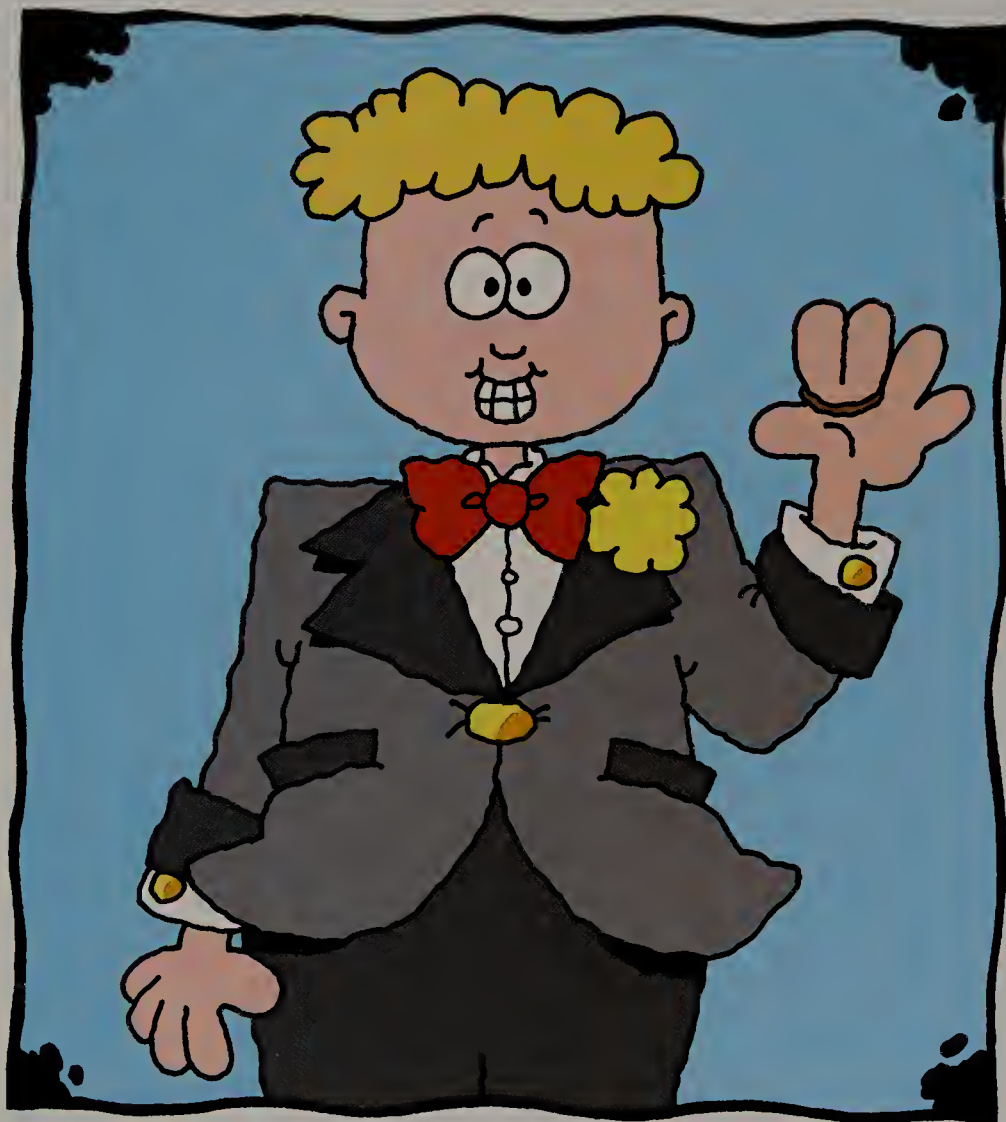
You put a rubber band around your first two fingers and it magically jumps over to your last two fingers.

Magic Supply

◆ A small rubber band

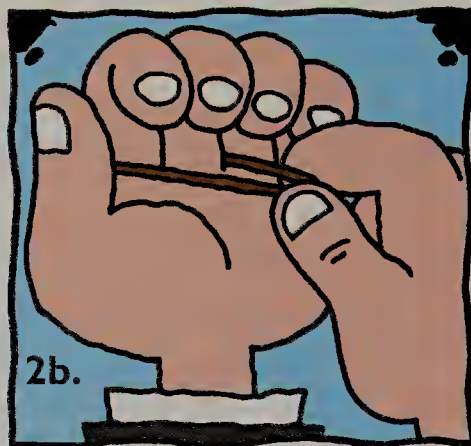
The Trick

1. Put the rubber band around the first and second fingers of your left hand. Pull the rubber band down to the bottom of your fingers. Raise your hand so your palm faces you and your fingers are straight.

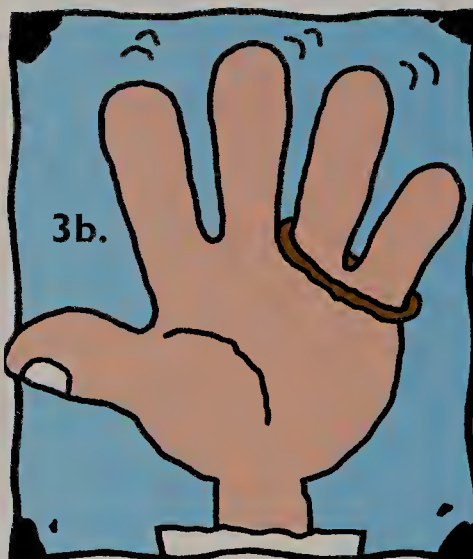


2. Close your left hand. With your right hand, take hold of the rubber band and wrap it around your left fingers like in Picture 2c.

The audience is only seeing the back of your hand. To them it looks like the rubber band is around the bottom of your first two fingers.



3. Say your magic word and open up your left hand. When you straighten your fingers, the rubber band will jump over to your third and little fingers.



4. To make the rubber band jump back to the first two fingers, close your left hand into a fist. Wrap the rubber band around all four fingertips of your left hand. Straighten your fingers and the rubber band will jump again.

Upside-down Money

The Magic

You hold a bill right-side up in both hands. Slowly, you fold the bill. You never turn it over. When you unfold it, the bill has magically turned upside down.



Magic Supply

♦ Any bill

The Trick

1. Hold the bill with both hands. Fold the top half forward and down.



2. Fold the right half to the left.



3. Fold the right half to the left again.



4. To open the bill so that it is right-side up again, unfold the back half of the bill to the right.



5. Unfold the front half of the bill to the left.



6. Now lift the front half of the bill. It's still right-side up. No magic has happened yet.



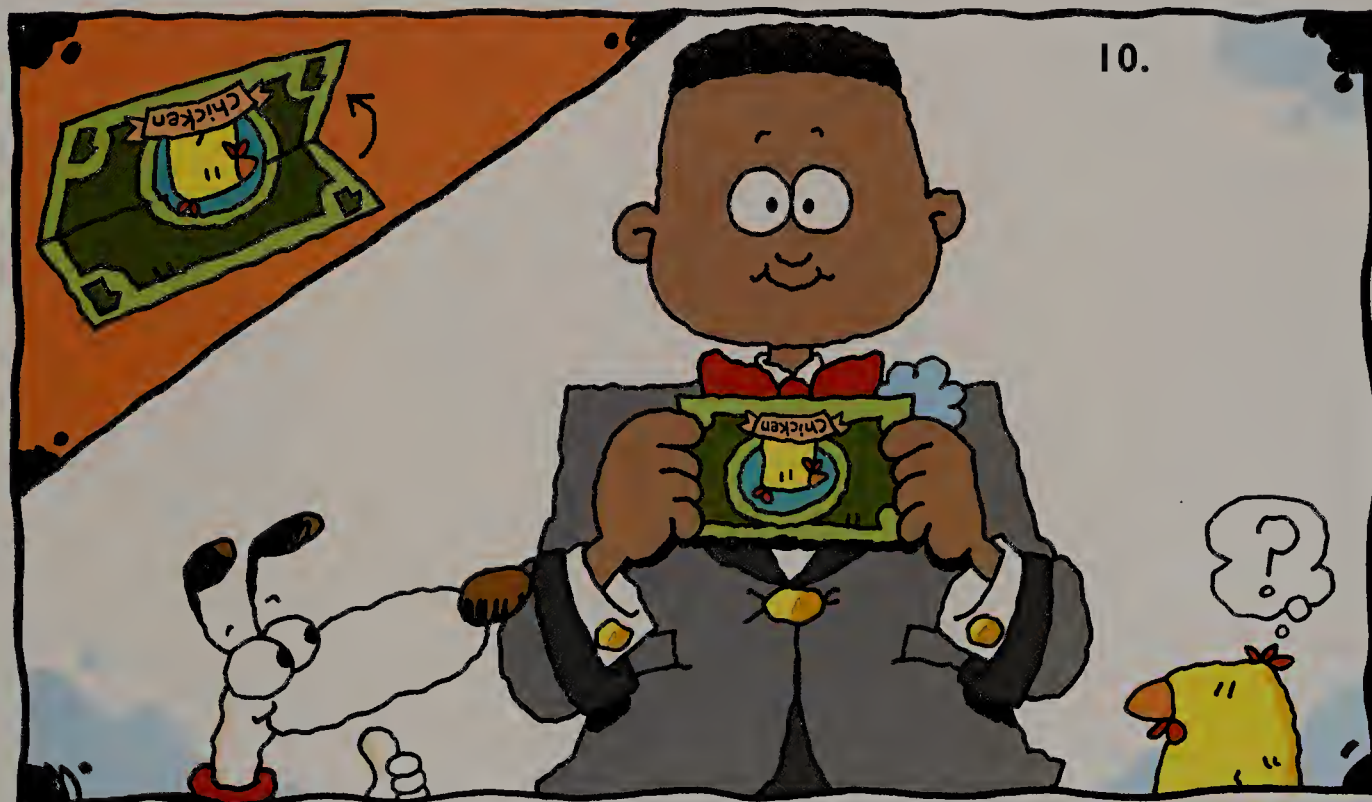
7. To make the bill magically unfold upside down, first do steps 1–3 to fold up the bill.

8. To open the bill so that it is upside down, unfold the back half of the bill to the right. (The same as step 4.)

9. Open the back half of the bill to the left.



10. Now lift the front half of the bill. It is now upside down.



Coin Energy

The Magic

You place three coins on the table. Two coins are touching (let's call them coins A and B). The third (let's call it coin C) is a little bit apart from them.

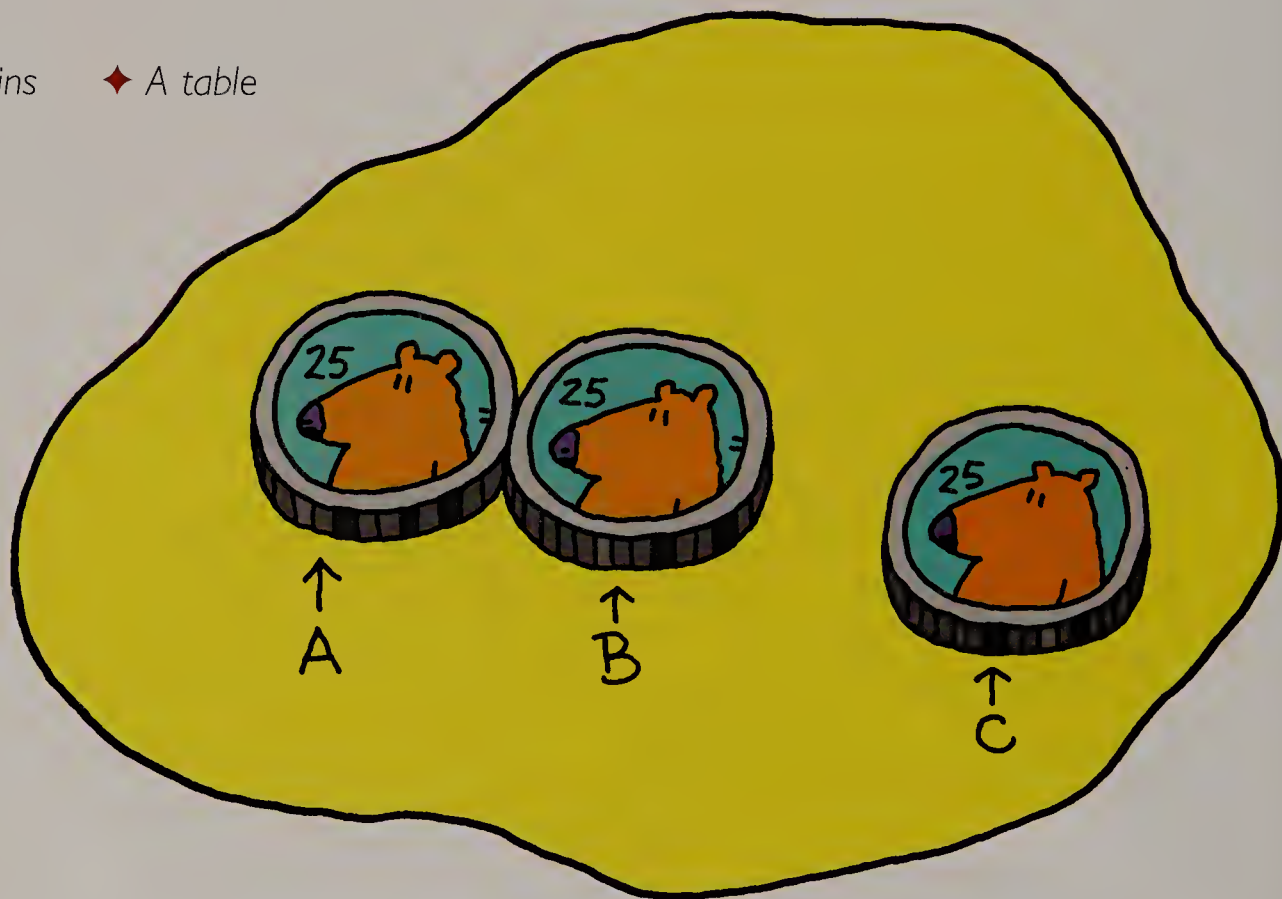
Ask someone from your audience to put coin C between coins A and B, but he cannot move coin B and he cannot touch coin A. He can't do it, but you can.

Magic Supplies

♦ Three small coins ♦ A table

The Trick

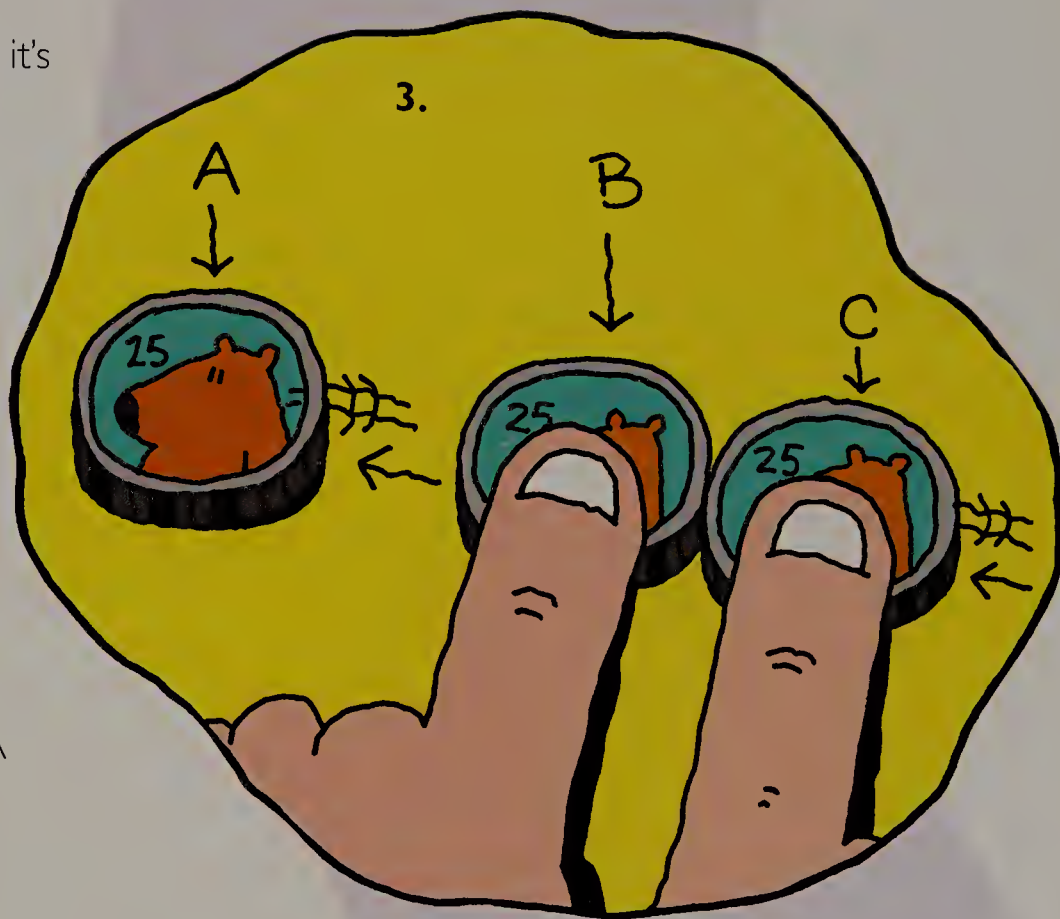
1. Lay the coins A, B, and C on the table. Have coins A and B touching. Coin C is not touching them.



2. Ask someone from your audience to put coin C between coins A and B. Tell him that he has to do this without moving coin B and without touching coin A. After awhile, he will give up. Now it's your turn.

3. Place your first finger on coin B to keep it in place. With your other hand, slide coin C across the table so that it hits coin B. When coin C hits coin B, coin A will be knocked away.

4. Now you just have to move coin C to a place somewhere between coin A and coin B.



Checker Zapper

The Magic

You build a stack of black checker pieces with one red checker near the bottom. You ask your friend to take the red checker out without touching it or the rest of the stack. Magically, you're able to do it.

Magic Supplies

- ◆ *Several black checker pieces and one red checker*
- ◆ *A table*

The Trick

1. Stack the checker pieces. Make sure the red checker is the second piece from the bottom. Leave a few checker pieces lying on the table.
2. Ask someone from your audience if she can take the red checker out without touching it or the rest of the stack. When she gives up, you pick up one of the checker pieces that is lying on the table.



3. Stand the checker piece on its edge so that it is not far from the stack. Aim it at the stack.

4. Press your first finger down on the edge of the checker so that it shoots into the stack of checkers. It should only knock out the red checker. Before you do this trick in front of an audience, you will need to practice it a few times to find the best place for putting the red checker. Sometimes it may be better to put the red checker third from the bottom.



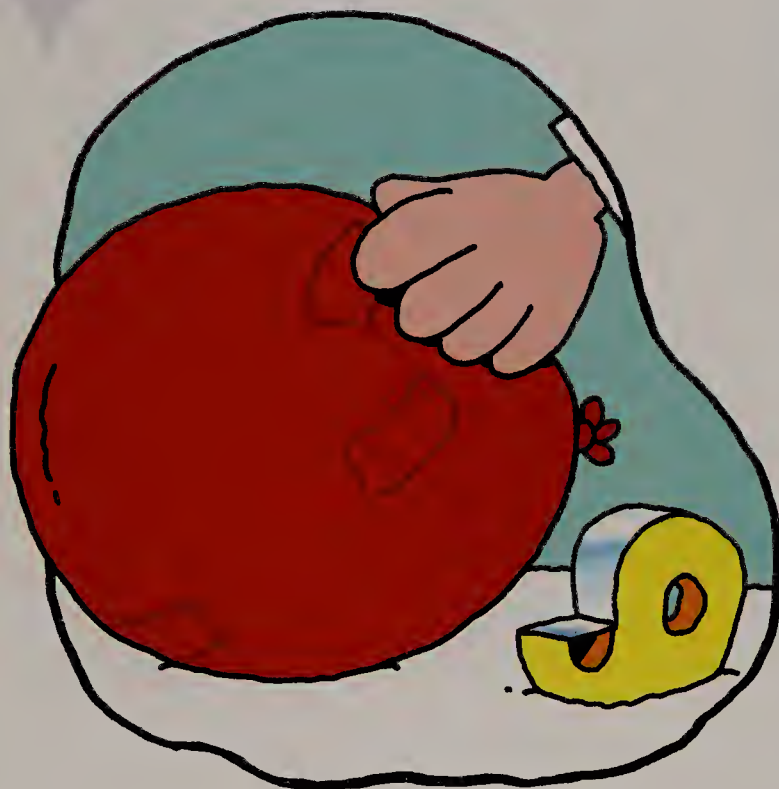
Un-pop-able Balloon

The Magic

You're able to make some balloons stick to the wall. Then you're able to stick a pin into one of them without popping it. When you relax your magical powers, the balloon pops.

Magic Supplies

- ◆ A few balloons
- ◆ A pin
- ◆ A roll of clear tape



Magic Safety

Pins are sharp. Be sure that you do not stick yourself or anyone with a pin. Practice this magic trick a few times with an adult until you know how to handle the pin safely.

Before You Start

Blow up the balloons and tie them off. Stick a few pieces of clear tape on one of the balloons. Make sure to smooth down the edges of the tape so that no one can see them.

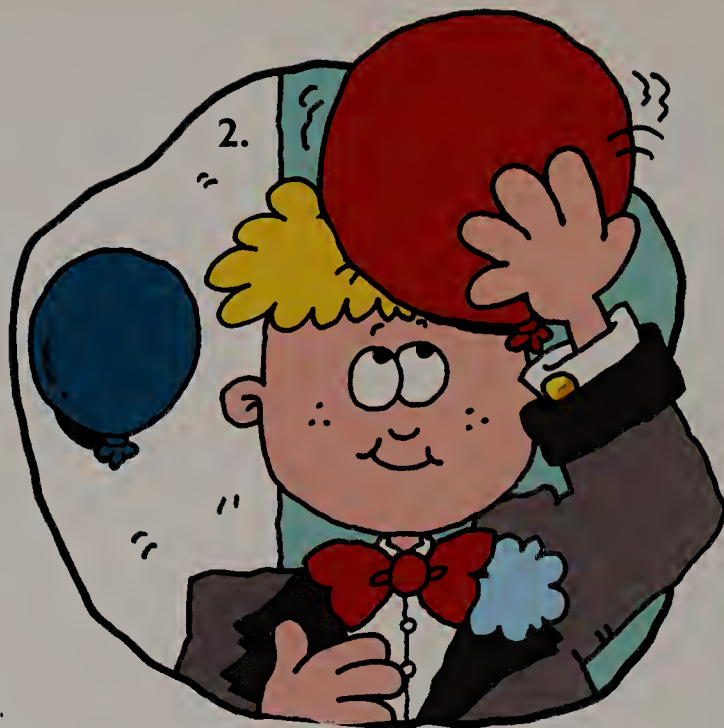
The Trick

1. Tell your audience that you have special magic powers over balloons. First, you will make them stick to the wall.
2. Rub any of the balloons **except** the one with the clear tape against your hair for a few moments. Then press them against the wall. They will stick.
3. Then tell your audience that you can make a balloon into a super-balloon. This super-balloon will not break if you stick it with a pin.
4. Pick up the balloon that has tape on it and pick up the pin. Make

sure to be careful with the pin.

5. Stick the pin into the parts of the balloon that are covered with tape. The balloon will not pop.

6. Then you tell your audience that you can take away this balloon's super powers. Stick the pin into a part of the balloon that isn't covered with tape. Be ready, it will pop loudly.



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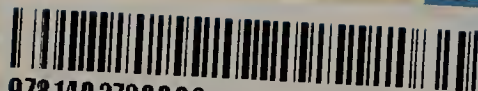
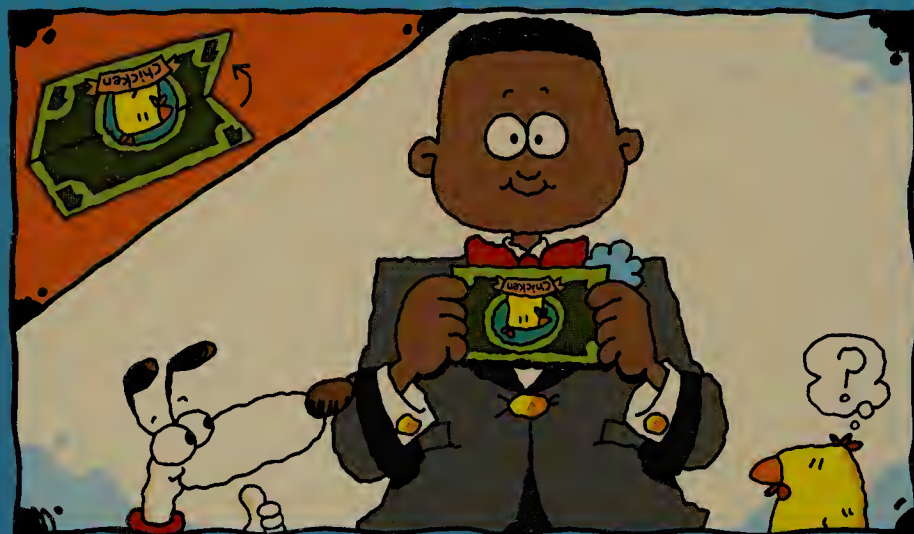
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Surprise everyone with fantastic magic tricks.

No one will be able to guess how you do them, but you'll never let anyone know the secrets that are here.

Only you can tie a knot in a piece of string without letting go of the ends. At your command, a button floats to the top of a glass and then sinks back to the bottom. How does a pen magically stick to your hand? Amazing!

You are a master magician!



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